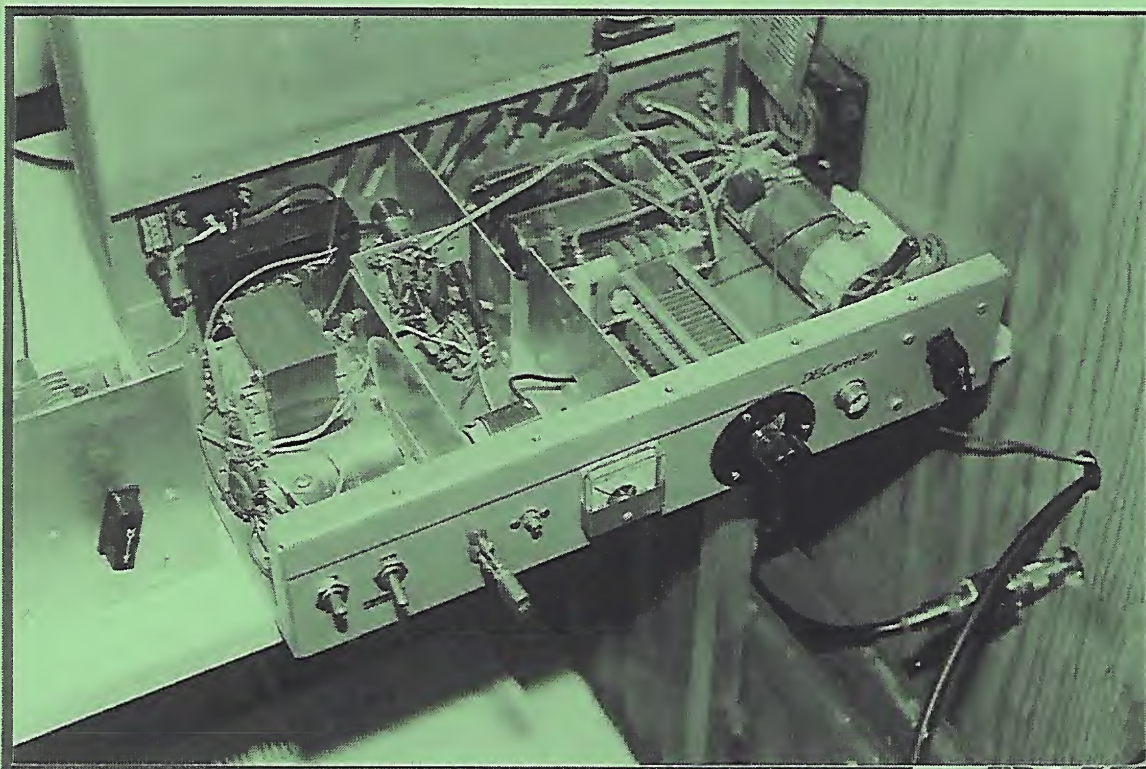


FRS GOES DX

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Weertersteenweg 335/3 ☆ 3640 Kinrooi ☆ Afgiftekantoor Maaseik

Volume 15 ■ Issue 142 ■ October/November/December 1996



TAR 140W tx for 76 metres

THE CHRISTMAS 1996 EDITION....

- ▶▶ The return of European Music Radio
- ▶▶ Transatlantic Radio feature
- ▶▶ 11 pages SW News & Logs, 4 pages Offshore Radio
- ▶▶ FRS-Holland's Oct. birthday & December broadcasts
- ▶▶ SW Propagation: a new 11-year sunspot cycle





COLOPHON

FRS GOES DX is a quarterly magazine which informs about radio in general and **free radio** in particular. It's a publication of FRS-Holland.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions can take effect in any month but will always end in December. A year's sub costs DM 35/- f 35/- £ 14.50 (Europe) or US\$24 (outside Europe). Payments are accepted ☐ *in cash* ☐ *by eurocheque* ☐ *by int. money order*. Important: eurocheques **must** be written out in either German Marks or Dutch Guilders!! Sample copies (once-only) can be obtained for DM 5.00/- £ 2.00/- f5.-/ \$ 3.00/- 4 inc's.

ADVERTISING

Small ads which are non-commercial are free of charge for members. Small commercial adverts cost DM 5.00/- £ 2.00/- f 5.-/ \$ 3.00. For full or half-page adverts contact the editor at the address below.

MAILING ADDRESS

All correspondence should be sent to P.O. Box 2727, 6049 ZG HERTEN in the Netherlands. **Do not use the address which is on the cover!** Email: joop.ter.zee@TIP.nl

CONTRIBUTORS

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SOURCES OF INFO

Freewave, Radio World, OEM, Free Radio Info, SRS, Radio News, line 1 radio news & Pirate Connection.

This edition is circulated to readers in Europe, the USA & New Zealand.

Next edition: Monday Dec. 16th
Deadline: Friday December 7th '96

EDITORIAL

In front of you the final 1996 FRSGDX edition. Looking back, my conclusion is that it was a right decision to publish the magazine on a quarterly basis rather than 6 times a year. In my opinion, FRSGDX has become more informative because of making use of the internet. E-mail brings messages safe and very rapidly on my computer, the numerous radio-related homepages on the WWW supply us with a mine of information. Certainly positive developments!!

A few FRSH listeners told us they were a bit disappointed by the fact FRSH is only so now and then on air. Another "complaint" was the fact reception was not always satisfactory. About the number of broadcasts: I think that 1996 was a good year, we produced 7 regular broadcasts (incl. the Dec. ones) which is more than we did in the past few years! Remember: we prefer *quality* above *quantity*. One 4 or 5 hour broadcast means a lot of preparation. And that's different from putting a tx on air on a Sun morning and airing a meaningless broadcast. I know I said it before: the production of the FRS Goes DX programme costs more than 10 hours. Just tell how many SW free radio stations produce a *real* DX-Show? Reading out loggings is simple, producing a show packed with varied news from the world of wireless is a horse of a different color!

For security reasons and due to site problems, we are making use of the RFL txs in the UK. 30W is just *not* enough to reach Berlin or Munich with a solid signal. Not if conditions are only poor/fair. You cannot compare 1996 with for instance 1980 when conditions were brilliant. Besides: our 10W txs were located at a site much closer to Germany.

Anyway, FRSH is also active with own txs. That means a complete day from home between 06.30-18.00... You may conclude we are still very serious when it comes to SW broadcasts...

73's, Peter N

Page 3-4	FRS Newscorner
Page 5-15	SW News & Loggings
Page 16-17	News from around the World
Page 17	Propagation
Page 17-18	Future 76 & 48 mb
Page 18-19	Made in Holland
Page 20-23	Sounds from Offshore
Page 23	JTZs Alternative Thoughts
Page 24	Artiom Reports..
Page 25	European Music Radio
Page 26	Transatlantic Radio
Page 27-28	Mailbox 2727



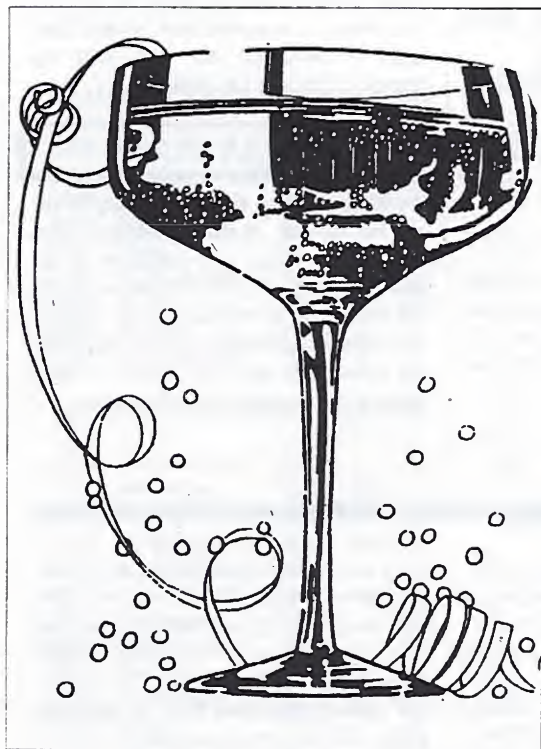
FRS NEWSCORNER

FRS-HOLLAND NEWS

THE OCT. 16th BIRTHDAY

Mid August the first preparations started for the FRSH October 16th birthday broadcasts. We had great plans including trms from three different sites.

Detailed plans included the actual programme-schedule, competition, the



contents of the shows etc. Main idea was to invite listeners sending their FRS-Holland memories of the past 16 years. The message was also spread via the Internet and quite a number of listeners responded. One broadcast would be aired on 3945//6275 via the RFL boys. A nighttime trm and the Sunday daytime activities would be done with our own txs. And so it happened that on Sat evening Oct. 19th FRSH programming kicked off in the early evening on 3945//6275. At 23.00 UTC 15046 & 6958 AM were added. These two txs would carry our full 5 hours programming while 4 hour blocks were heard via the RFL txs. As a result two shows via RFL were recorded in different versions from the ones being heard Sun Oct. 20th between 09.15- 14.30 UTC. "FRS Goes DX" and "FRS Magazine" were aired in two versions: the full versions on Sundays on 6243, the shorter ones on

6275 and 3945.

The nighttime broadcast on 15046//6958 had to be cancelled at approx. 01.15 UTC, one of the power supplies went in smoke! In the mean time 3945 and 6275 were doing fine although not much was heard in wide areas of the continent and Great Britain because of long skip. Conditions the following Sun morning were good. At 09.15 UTC FRS-Holland's tx was switched on on 6243 kHz. That was 25 minutes too late. Although PV went very early to the location, he experienced difficulties erecting the open half wave dipole. The weather was extremely bad and for that reason the broadcast started too late. Luckily there was hardly any long skip that Sunday, after a few calls it was obvious that a loud and clear signal was heard on 6243. 3945 was switched off in the morning hours while 6275 would continue till the early evening. Signal-quality was fine! At approx. 14.30 UTC 6243 was switched off. The end of a long and satisfactory day.

RESULTS OCTOBER

The great news was an Email from Australia in which the sender said he was almost sure to have been receiving FRSH Sat. evening Oct. 19th at 19.05 UTC on 6275. Less than two weeks later a (correct) rec. report reached us via Box 2727!

Great... In the past we received reports from Russia, the US and Argentina. But so far we never were heard in "Down Under". The sender writes in his letter "I've just worked out why your signal faded out at 19.25 UTC. That was because of sunrise here in Australia."

Here's a listing containing a selection of sinpo's.

Sydney	Australia	6275	25422
Firenze	Italy	6275	33433
Firenze	Italy	3945	43434
Riga	Latvia	6243	42232
Bad Ischl	Austria	6243	35--3
Munich	Germany	6243	34333-4
Bertrichamps	France	6275	43333
Bertrichamps	France	6243	44444
Laleham	England	6243	44444
Okehampton	England	3945	45444
Pont Canavese	Italy	3945	23332

Vasa	Finland	6243	33333
Bad Salzuflen	Germany	6243	44444

All in all we received some 50 letters, to be honest a bit disappointing when looking at previous years and at the fact we were 24 hours on air via three txs. Obviously too many persons who were actually listening didn't take the trouble to drop us a line. It's disappointing knowing there are people who still haven't the faintest idea how many hours were spent, how much work it was. Feedback is the only way in which a station can "measure" if its efforts were worth while. Your letters are our reward!

16th BIRTHDAY QSL

A special photo-QSL has been sent to those dropping us a line. The qsl shows a new and completely rebuilt FRS-Holland studio (owned by PV). FRSH considers the idea of bringing out a series of QSLs - *The Studio Series* - featuring the studios of Joop ter Zee and Stefan Kramer as well. In this way any Dxer/FRSH listener can collect a complete series of QSLs showing all FRSH studios.

BIRTHDAY COMPETITION

The October birthday competition: answers were JUNE (in which month FRSH put out its very first SW broadcast (to be exactly June 22nd 1980) and EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO (what was the name of FRSH's sister-station, a station which made a come-back earlier this year). Remarkable is that many listeners mentioned July 1980 instead of June... The winner will be announced Dec. 22nd in the Peter V. show!

FRSH DECEMBER TRMS

For the 16th time the FRS X-Mas spirit will rule the SW free radio airwaves. Date: Sun Dec. 22nd. We play nothing but 70s OLDIES in the X-Mas shows trying to play not only the well-known records but also some rare stuff. i.e. records you don't hear that much on the radio. This year we have no requests or dedications in contrast with 1995. As usual the shows will include a few interesting items, for instance the deejays' personal 70s top 3. And ofcourse the October mail will be read out in all programmes apart from the DX-Show. For the rest: tune in and find out yourself!

The frequency: we're aiming to use the same frequency as we used October 20th: 6243 kHz/ 48 metres. Alternatives are 6207, 6220, 6285, 6290 or 6295.



SUN DECEMBER 22nd 1996
FRSH X-MAS PARTY
SOUND OF THE 70s

PROGRAMME-SCHEDULE

- 09.00 Breakfast with Santa
 Joop ter Zee
 10.15 FRS GOES DX-Mas
 Peter Verbruggen
 11.15 Stefan Kramer's
 Alternative X-mas Party
 13.30 X-Mas, the 70s and
 Peter Verbruggen
 13.45 Close Down.
times are in UTC!

December could see FRSH testing to North America early in the morning. Possibly in the early morning hours of either December 22nd, 25th, 26th or Dec. 29th.

And still there's more....

December 28th/29th we will be ringing out 1996 with 4 hours of the best sounds

from the 1980s. This broadcast will take place on 6400 starting already Sat evening.

SUN DECEMBER 29th 1996
FRS-HOLLAND OLD YEAR'S
PARTY SOUND OF THE 80s

PROGRAMME-SCHEDULE

- 00.00* Opening: Station Ids & theme tune
 00.10 80s Classic Gold with Peter Verbruggen
 01.25 Stefan Kramer's Sound of the 80s
 02.40 Sounds Alternatives- Joop ter Zee
 04.00 Close Down.

Mind you: 00.00 is not the time but marks the start of the broadcast. 04.00 marks the end of the broadcast after 4 hours of broadcasting. At that moment we start again with opening etc.

NEW WEBSITE

FRS-Holland has a new website:

<http://home.pi.net/~freak55/home.htm>

Email addresses are:

< peter.verbruggen@tip.nl > and

< joop.ter.zee@pi.net > . This latter one is also new! You have access to our old homepage till February 1st.

FRS SALES PROD.

FRS Sales Productions has some great offers for the December month (both audio & video). A complete new, revised catalogue is available for DM 3.00 (in stamps)/2 IRC's/ 2 US Dollars .

THANKS!!

We'd like to take this opportunity at the end of the year to thank all people who contributed to this very magazine in the past 12 months. We won't mention names but would like to emphasize your support was highly appreciated. And we are looking forward to next year when we once again hope you will be contributing.

SW News/ Cont. from page 15:

.....one particular lar day. Any station being received should not be reported less than 10 minutes. Details should include frequency, day, time in UTC, station name, programme details, language and quality of reception (stating: good, sufficient or poor).

3) Each logged station will yield 10 points, 1 point will be given when the same station is logged on a different frequency. Logging any of the stations which mention the contest in their programme yields 50 points, but only 50

points per station during the period of the contest. During the contest monitoring stations will be active, so be careful because for each falsely logged station you get 10 penalty points.

4) What you can win is the 1997 edition of the WRTH, an annual Play-DX subscription and cassettes with pirate radio jingles. Besides: everyone taking part receives a certificate and a Radio Europe sticker (relaying several free radio stations during the period of the contest!).

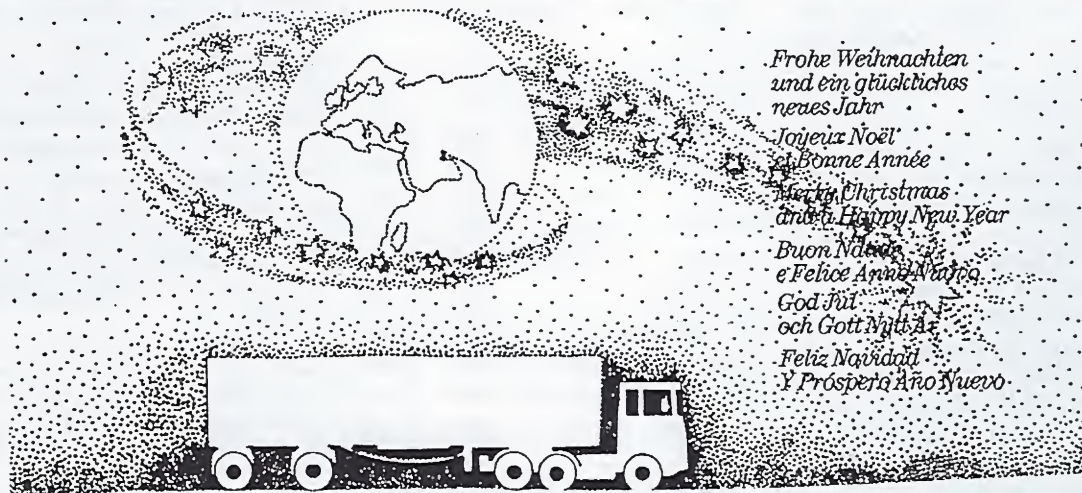
There is a possibility for the participants to have their logs being verified. This service

from the contest's manager is free of charge. The only thing you have to do is putting the names of those stations you want a verification from on a separate list with on top "to be verified".

For further questions write to the foregoing address or send an email to:

< 100135.54@compuserve.com >.

By the way, several persons have helped to organise this contest: Luigi Basso, Patrick Wilfoer, Francis Mougenez, Peter Galliker, Chris Ise, Derek Taylor, Jonny Augustsson.



Frohe Weihnachten
 und ein glückliches
 neues Jahr
 Joyeux Noël
 et Bonne Année
 Merry Christmas
 and a Happy New Year
 Buon Natale
 e Felice Anno Nuovo
 God Jul
 och Gott Nytt År
 Feliz Navidad
 Y Próspera Año Nuevo

SW SURVEY

The SIO's are for the UK and the continent respectively. In case there's no SIO at all listed, the station was *only* logged in Scandinavia. SW addresses are to be found elsewhere in this column. In this issue we cover the period Sat Sept. 21st-Sun Dec. 8th 1996.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21st 1996

3898	Unid	23.08	—	—2
3940	Pamela	20.45	—	322
3955	SWR-Switzerl.	20.00	544	—
3985	Rock-it	14.28	444	444
6200	Unid	09.04	—	222
6400	Weekend MR.	20.58	—	222
7125	Rock-it	11.04	—	444
7303	Europe	07.40	—	-2
7500	Internazionale	??.??	—	-2

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd 1996

3898	Intern. Music R.	20.19	—	—4
3910	Reflections	15.02	555	—
3912	Meteoor	09.25	—	333
3912	Moonlight	09.18	444	444
3913	R.Atlantis	09.16	—	232
3913	Trans Atlantic	09.30	444	444
3915	R.Meteoor	09.31	—	444
3916	R.Moonlight	09.27	—	433
3922	Centraal	20.08	—	333
3927	R.Red King	09.15	—	443
3927	Korak	21.45	—	-3
3940	Trans Atlantic	20.16	—	444
3955	Rock-it R.	20.05	544	444
3985	SWR Switzerl.	15.00	343	444
3985	Intern. Music R.	15.01	343	444
3985	IRRS Milan	16.15	—	444
6207	R.Caroline (Fr)	08.15	141	232
6220	Laser Hot Hits	08.18	—	322
6232	R.Speranza	09.25	—	222
6235	Jolly Roger R.	08.18	343	333
6235	Britain R.	09.34	242	333
6242	unid	10.58	—	333
6250	Dr. Tim	10.00	—	111
6256	Ozone	11.22	—	222
6257	R.Experimental	12.09	—	242
6260	Transatlantic	07.59	—	333
6260	Benelux	08.41	454	232
6260	Welle Wahnsinn	10.59	—	433
6260	Sued West R.	12.02	—	333
6267	unid	11.33	—	343
6270	Tonair	09.08	—	—3
6280	R.Zodiac	11.17	—	311
6280	R.Fan Man	08.18	—	333
6280	R.Pandora	09.14	—	422
6281	Live Wire R.	11.37	—	232
6281	Action	12.28	—	-4
6288	Torenv./Pamela	11.03	343	333
6295	Reflections	19.38	444	333
6300	R.Horizon	11.01	544	444

6400	Weekend MR.	09.08	—	242
7125	SWR-Switzerl.	08.05	454	—
7281	R.Mistero	08.56	—	242
7303	R.Europe	09.02	—	444
7303	R.Marabu	09.17	—	444
7308	Lipstick?	09.05	—	-2
7380	Int.Music R.	09.06	—	242
7501	R.Internazionale	12.00	—	444

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28th 1996

3925	R.Marabu	20.27	—	422
3925	unid	22.35	—	333
3945	R.Free London	20.30	444	444
3955	R.Powerstation	20.25	—	444
3955	Jugendradio	20.31	444	-4
3985	IRRS	18.02	343	—
6238	Star Club	20.32	—	-2
6270	Dr. Tim	20.10	—	-4
6275	FRSH	18.15	—	-3
6295	unid	17.32	—	333
6300	Unid (Dutch)	14.21	—	222
7125	Rock-it R.	07.33	—	444
7303	R.Marabu	09.15	—	444
7303	R.Europe	11.30	—	444

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29th 1996

3845	Free London	07.00	—	—3
3900	R.Moonlight	14.55	—	433
3910	Reflections	15.02	555	—
3935	Subt. Sounds	12.18	554	—
3845	R.Free London	07.00	554	433
3955	Rock-it	20.32	444	—
3985	SWR Switzerl.	15.00	—	444
3985	R.Wonderful	15.01	—	444
3985	Rock-it R.	16.28	444	444
6200	UCB	12.00	454	—
6207	R.Caroline (Fr)	10.00	343	232
6217	Perfekt	09.00	—	-3
6220	Unid	09.10	—	-3
6235	KIWI R.	10.53	544	232
6235	R. Jemima	11.18	544	333
6235	Jolly Roger R.	09.50	554	333
6235	Britain Radio	11.30	—	-3
6241	R.Rebel 105	09.25	—	444
6241	R.Perfekt	10.26	—	444
6250	R.Born Free	10.01	—	333
6255	unid	09.23	—	444
6255	Ozone R.	10.31	554	343
6260	Sued West R.	10.26	—	444
6260	Trans Atlantic R	10.33	554	343
6260	Int.Music R.	10.47	—	232
6260	unid, Italian??	11.10	—	333
6260	Int.Music R.	11.11	—	242
6260	unid	12.05	—	443
6261	Trans Atlantic R.	10.37	—	444
6270	R.Dr.Tim	10.48	—	333
6270	Tonair	13.45	343	-2
6275	FRS Holland	07.15	343	333
6288	Unid	09.23	—	222
6290	The Fox	08.45	—	444

6290	Titanic	09.30	—	-3
6295	Reflections	15.02	554	—
6295	Good Fun	09.10	—	-3
6295	R.Black Bastard	09.45	—	544
6295	unid	09.59	—	332
6295	unid	10.04	—	333
6300	R.Horizon	11.40	544	444
7300	Europe	10.00	—	-3
7303	Jolly Roger	09.50	—	-2
7303	R.Marabu, tent.	10.00	—	422
7303	R.Europe	11.00	—	433
7500	Internazionale	08.55	—	-4
12256	Wrekin' R.Int.	09.51	—	342

SATURDAY OCTOBER 5th 1996

3910	R.Natalie	21.36	—	333
3910	Intern.Music R.	21.54	—	333
3922	R.Centraal	22.02	—	333
3927	R.Korak	22.10	—	554
3940	Trans Atlantic	21.35	—	433
3945	R.Free London	09.10	544	343
3985	IRRS	07.25	—	444
3885	IRRS	16.00	343	—
6200	UCB	09.30	343	—
6235	Kiwi Radio	13.56	343	—
6235	Jolly Roger	16.14	—	242
6266	UK Radio	09.17	242	322
6275	R.Marabu	09.16	242	343
6299	R.Horizon	16.18	—	555
6955	Up Your R.	23.16	—	141
7125	Rock-it R.	07.30	—	444

SUNDAY OCTOBER 6th 1996

3910	Reflections	15.02	554	—
3927	R.Korak	00.00	—	555
3945	R.Free London	00.00	—	444
3955	Rock-it	20.31	544	—
3985	SWR Switzerl.	15.00	—	444
3985	R.Powerstation	15.02	554	444
3985	Jugendradio	15.32	—	433
3985	Rock-it R.	16.03	554	433
6207	R.Caroline (Fr.)	08.30	—	232
6210	Easy Int. R.	13.54	343	333
6220	Laser Hot Hits	08.30	—	242
6235	Jolly Roger R.	09.40	343	232
6235	KIWI R.	13.59	343	232
6241	R.Perfekt	12.43	—	444
6247	R.Pacman	14.21	—	444
6250	R.Communic.	09.37	—	433
6250	J.A.N.	12.42	—	444
6250	R.Delta 901	12.47	—	333
6250	R.Sherwood	13.05	—	433
6250	R.Dr.Tim	12.23	—	444
6254	Ozone R.	09.15	544	322
6255	R.Communic.	09.22	—	422
6261	Trans Atlantic	13.17	454	554
6265	R.Onbekend	14.06	—	343
6266	Zwarte Panter	11.56	343	444
6269	Zwarte Panter	14.23	—	444
6270	R.Dr.Tim	13.07	—	444



6270	R.Sherwood	13.10	—	444
6270	Trans Atlantic	13.13	—	444
6270	R.Boomerang	14.34	242	444
6270	Zwarte Panter	14.35	—	444
6270	unid	14.47	—	544
6272	Zwarte Panter	13.51	—	433
6273	R.Santana	14.17	—	444
6275	J.A.N.	14.16	—	444
6275	Alfa Mike	14.16	—	242
6275	R.Mistero	14.24	—	333
6275	R.Boomerang	14.50	—	433
6280	R.MOZ	08.25	—	333
6280	R.Pandora	09.05	—	333
6280	Friday R.	11.15	454	333
6290	R.Blue Sky	09.05	—	343
6290	Delta R.	09.45	454	343
6299	R.Horizon	10.00	554	554
6401	R.Free London	08.25	554	444
7303	R.Marabu	10.16	—	444
7303	Pirata	10.28	—	343
7303	R.Europe	08.30	—	444
7490	unid	08.30	—	242
7501	R.Internazionale	10.30	—	544

SATURDAY OCTOBER 12th 1996

3920	R.Free London	18.30	—	444
3923	Albatross	22.17	—	—2
3927	Meteoor	23.22	—	—4
3945	Weekend MR.	21.52	—	444
3945	The Fox	22.05	—	444
3955	Radio Wonderful	20.45	—	444
3985	Rock-it	14.34	444	—
6301	Blauwe Ster	19.06	—	—4
6955	WRMC, US !!	23.05	—	232
7125	Rock-it R.	07.35	—	444

SUNDAY OCTOBER 13th 1996

3913	R.Albatros	09.33	—	444
3913	R.Moonlight	09.38	—	444
3920	R.Free London	00.00	—	444
3928	R.Meteoor	09.27	—	444
3928	Int.Music R.	09.44	—	232
3930	Meteoor	09.27	—	—4
3920	Blue Sky	09.11	—	—3
3945	The Fox	00.00	—	444
3945	unid	06.30	—	332
3985	R.Wonderful	15.15	—	444
3985	Rock-it R.	16.07	—	444
6206	Communication	11.40	—	—3
6207	R.Caroline (Fr.)	09.00	—	222
6210	Dr.Tim	11.26	—	333
6217	R.Perfekt	12.02	—	333
6234	Ozone	11.45	—	—3
6235	KIWI R.	07.58	—	333
6235	Britain	09.25	343	—3
6235	Jolly Roger	08.12	—	232
6235	Laser Hot Hits	13.14	343	—
6241	Perfekt	09.57	—	—3
6245	Weekend MR.	09.25	—	444
6245	Communication	09.50	—	—3
6245	Black Arrow	10.15	343	—2
6247	Communication	10.05	—	—3
6248	Blue Sky?	10.47	—	—3
6250	Unid	08.45	—	—1
6253	Nordsee	10.00	—	—2

6256	Ozone	10.55	343	333
6260	Crazy Wave	08.20	—	333
6260	Transatlantic	13.00	343	333
6268	R.Onbekend	10.30	—	—3
6268	Transatlantic	13.50	—	—3
6270	Dr.Tim	12.10	—	232
6271	Mistero	15.30	—	—4
6274	Zwarte Panter	09.01	—	—4
6275	R.Marabu	09.25	454	343
6280	R.Zodiac	09.27	—	343
6295	R.Good Fun	07.58	—	433
6295	Horizon	09.43	—	—3
6296	WMR	09.00	—	—3
6299	Horizon	10.57	544	331
6400	Weekend MR.	09.36	—	333
7501	R.Internazionale	09.00	—	444
12256	Wrekin' Radio	09.50	—	—2

SATURDAY OCTOBER 19th 1996

3920	R.Black Arrow	17.30	—	444
3920	R.Oscar	17.34	—	343
3922	R.Oscar	17.41	—	343
3925	Driland	23.05	—	—1
3926	Meteoor	18.28	242	322
3945	FRS Holland	17.29	343	333
6238	Jolly Roger	16.07	—	222
6296	Horizon	11.48	—	333
6275	FRS Holland	20.00	—	343
6290	Unid	11.45	—	222
6300	Horizon?	11.48	—	—3
6400	Free London	18.06	—	333
7500	Internazionale	15.24	—	444

SUNDAY OCTOBER 20th 1996

3910	Reflections	15.02	554	—
3912	R.Meteoor	08.58	—	444
3913	R.Albatros	09.23	—	444
3913	R.Moonlight	08.43	—	444
3915	R.Onbekend	10.31	—	444
3920	R.Black Arrow	09.25	—	544
3920	Subterranean S.	11.45	—	242
3920	XTC	15.00	343	—
3922	R.Driland	08.43	—	444
3934	R.Tonair	10.39	—	444
3945	FRS Holland	06.45	—	333
3985	Rock-it R.	14.25	444	444
3985	IRRS Milano	14.44	444	444
6199	R.Joystick(?)	11.35	—	444
6200	Int. Music R.	09.03	—	343
6201	Trans Atlantic	09.00	—	544
6201	Communication	10.27	—	—4
6201	Trans Atlantic	13.31	—	544
6207	R.Caroline (Fr.)	09.00	—	232
6214	R.Torenvalk	09.38	343	544
6215	R.Torenvalk	13.33	—	444
6215	R.Telstar 901	13.41	—	242
6220	Unid (Ozone?)	07.20	—	—2
6220	Laser Hot Hits	08.55	—	444
6220	KIWI R.	13.54	—	232
6238	Jolly Roger	07.50	—	232
6238	KIWI R.	08.08	—	222
6238	Laser Hot Hits	09.30	—	222
6244	FRS Holland	08.13	343	444
6251	R.Nordsee	10.48	—	343
6252	Metropolis	08.00	—	—2

6266	UK Radio	10.16	141	—
6270	R.Communic.	09.18	—	433
6275	FRS Holland	09.00	—	433
6280	Zodiac	09.12	—	—3
6282	R.Joystick(?)	11.11	—	333
6289	R.Brigitte	09.01	—	311
6290	Blue Sky	07.18	—	—2
6290	R.Airplane	08.09	—	322
6290	R.MOZ	08.58	544	333
6290	R.Pandora	10.01	—	433
6290	R.Airplane	11.42	—	—3
6295	Reflections	15.02	554	—
6299	R.Horizon	08.05	—	444
6306	R.P.A.	13.47	—	—3
6630	ABC Dublin	10.40	544	—
6402	R.Free London	07.52	544	343
7303	R.Europe	10.37	—	444
7435	Trans Atlantic	09.30	—	444
7435	Int.Music R.	09.35	—	343
7485	City	10.12	—	—1
7490	R.Pamela	09.09	—	343
7501	R.Internazionale	09.00	—	444
12256	Wrekin' R.	09.22	—	232

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26th 1996

3912	R.Onbekend	17.58	—	444
3912	R.Centurion	18.05	—	444
3920	R.Centurion	17.00	—	544
3920	R.Blue Sky	17.42	—	232
3920	R.Meteoor	17.44	—	444
3920	R.Black Arrow	17.57	—	544
3921	R.Centurion	17.49	—	444
3925	R.Blue Sky	18.02	—	222
3925	unid, Dutch	22.55	—	333
3926	R.Centurion	22.56	—	332
3985	IRRS	19.00	444	—
6238	Jolly Roger	13.12	343	343
6244	R.Brigitte	09.44	—	342
6266	UK Radio	08.15	444	333
6275	UK Radio	12.45	353	—
6290	unid UK station	09.45	—	333
6290	CWR	23.30	—	—2
6298	R.Horizon	15.54	554	333
6970	N.A.P.R.S., US!	23.04	—	131
7125	Rock-it	11.23	—	232
7303	R.Europe	09.50	—	444

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27th 1996

3910	Reflections	16.02	554	—
3915	unid	08.44	—	222
3920	R.Sherwood	18.09	—	333
3921	unid	10.18	—	333
3928	Int.Music R.	08.30	—	443
3935	R.HAL, tent.	16.43	—	544
3985	R.Wonderful	16.16	343	444
3985	Rock-it R.	17.17	—	444
6205	Blue Sky	11.04	—	—3
6220	Laser Hot Hits	11.58	343	—
6238	Laser Hot Hits	08.10	—	232
6216	Unid	00.25	—	—2
6220	Laser Hot Hits	08.01	343	—2
6238	WABC	08.41	343	333
6238	Britain R.	10.30	554	333
6238	Jolly Roger	13.02	554	444
6244	Weekend MR.	10.10	554	333



6245	R.Select	10.45	—	232
6246	R.Black Arrow	10.48	—	333
6250	Easy R., tent.	13.31	544	333
6250	R.Nordsee	08.40	—	444
6250	Unid	13.21	—	554
6254	R.Brigitte, tent.	08.46	—	322
6255	R.Brigitte	12.24	—	322
6257	Ozone	13.34	544	333
6260	R.Tonair Int.	09.56	—	232
6260	R.Coroner	10.00	—	232
6261	Trans Atlantic	10.32	454	544
6266	UK R.	09.57	—	333
6270	R.Dr.Tim	10.20	—	333
6270	R.Zodiac	12.06	—	232
6271	R.Perfekt	10.52	—	544
6273	unid	10.25	—	433
6276	R.Onbekend	11.36	—	-4
6280	R.Aktief	12.32	—	433
6280	Torenvalk	10.34	—	-4
6280	Boomerang	12.05	—	-3
6280	Actief	12.32	—	-3
6281	R.Tonair	10.27	—	444
6282	Vliegende Ant.	12.30	—	444
6283	R.HAL, tent.	13.30	—	444
6289	CWR / BNL	09.22	—	433
6290	Good Fun R.	08.59	—	343
6295	Reflections	15.02	554	—
6298	R.Horizon	09.24	554	444
6400	Weekend MR.	09.30	454	232
6400	R.Free London	09.38	—	222
6630	ABC Dublin	10.25	554	—
7303	R.Europe	09.30	—	444
7500	R.Internazionale	09.15	—	333
11093	R.St.Helena	19.01	—	354

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2nd 1996

3900	KDED, tent.	21.08	—	343
3910	Int.Music R.	22.10	—	322
3920	unid	22.13	—	222
3920	R.Blue Sky, tent.	22.14	—	322
3927	Int.Music R.	22.27	—	343
3940	unid	22.13	—	444
3945	RFL	09.45	544	—
3985	Rock-it R.	15.04	—	544
3985	R.Sparks	23.27	—	444
3985	SWR Switzerl.	23.58	—	444
6203	UCB	10.54	544	—
6210	Pamela	10.18	242	—
6237	Jolly Roger	14.10	444	333
6266	UK R.	14.05	141	443
6275	R.Marabu	14.00	343	333
6275	City FM	17.16	—	322
6281	unid	14.25	—	433
6283	Zwarte Panter	14.37	—	444
6290	Unid	11.25	444	—
6955	unid, US	23.50	—	131

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 3rd 1996

3910	R.Meteoor	09.39	—	444
3910	R.Atlantis	09.50	—	444
3910	R.Blue Sky	10.48	—	242
3910	Reflections	15.59	554	—
3912	R.Oscar	10.49	—	333
3913	R.Select	09.53	—	343
3920	R.Korak	00.01	—	444

3920	Subt.Sounds	13.09	544	343
3922	R.Albatros	10.07	—	333
3927	Int.Music R.	00.00	—	333
3928	Int.Music R.	08.54	—	232
3938	R.Moonlight	09.55	—	444
3985	R.Sparks	16.15	343	444
3985	Rock-it R.	17.00	343	444
6203	U.C.B.	09.33	554	433
6207	unid	12.50	—	322
6207	Crazy Wave	10.02	—	333
6210	unid	12.38	—	444
6220	Laser Hot Hits	13.43	—	333
6220	Britain R.	11.36	—	343
6220	R.Zodiac	11.18	—	333
6220	unid, Dutch	12.58	—	444
6222	R.Communic.	13.03	—	333
6238	Laser Hot Hits	08.40	544	333
6238	KIWI R.	?	—	333
6238	Jolly Roger	11.35	544	333
6244	R.Brigitte	11.58	—	333
6246	R.Torenvalk	11.55	—	333
6250	R.Blue Sky	09.51	—	444
6250	R.Nordsee	12.12	—	333
6250	R.Communic.	11.45	—	444
6250	R.Torenvalk	10.38	—	444
6252	Crazy Wave	11.30	—	444
6255	Ozone R.	11.34	544	333
6260	R.Onbekend	12.02	—	343
6260	R.Communic.	12.36	—	433
6260	Kristaal R.	12.07	—	444
6261	Trans Atlantic	11.42	—	444
6266	UK R.	09.07	343	333
6270	R.Dr.Tim	08.52	—	343
6276	Zwarte Panter	11.35	—	333
6280	R.MOZ	09.01	—	433
6280	R.Pandora	10.07	544	433
6283	R.Brigitte	08.50	—	333
6290	R.Good Fun	09.05	—	322
6290	R.Delta	10.13	444	333
6295	Reflections	15.59	554	—
6302	R.Horizon	08.50	544	544
6401	R.Free London	07.39	544	444
7303	R.Europe	09.00	—	444
7484	R.Marabu	08.52	—	444
7484	R.Waves	10.22	—	444
7490	unid	11.20	—	333
7501	R.Internazionale	10.00	—	544
11401	R.Waves	10.25	—	443
12256	Wrekin' R.	10.38	—	242

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9th 1996

3900	R.Friendship	23.18	—	322
3945	Free London	23.00	—	444
3985	IRRS	19.59	343	—
6220	Laser Hot Hits	10.52	242	—
6238	JRR	10.41	454	—
6280	Unid	13.26	343	—
6290	Alt. UK Radio	10.54	141	—
6950	WLIS (US!)	01.12	—	121
6955	Sparks, via US!	23.13	—	141
6955	Mystery Radio,	23.58	—	121

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10th 1996

3910	unid	13.50	—	333
3910	Reflections	16.32	554	—

3912	Blackbeard	12.35	444	222
3913	R.Red King	09.55	—	433
3920	XTC	12.46	131	—
3921	R.Brigitte	09.00	—	232
3945	R.Free London	08.30	544	444
3985	R. Breakdown	16.33	444	—
6210	R.Dr.Tim	09.40	—	322
6220	Laser Hot Hits	10.55	343	333
6220	Jolly Roger R.	11.57	343	333
6220	Britain R.	13.40	—	242
6238	Laser Hot Hits	09.30	—	232
6238	Britain R.	10.40	544	333
6245	Weekend MR.	11.03	554	443
6245	VOTN	13.26	242	—
6252	R.Metropolis	09.00	—	322
6255	Ozone R.	11.03	544	333
6266	UK R.	09.00	444	333
6270	R.Dr.Tim	10.05	—	322
6275	R.Marabu	08.30	—	433
6275	City FM	10.59	454	433
6277	R.Zwarte Panter	10.31	—	433
6282	R.Dr.Tim	10.38	—	433
6289	Crazy Wave R.	12.32	—	443
6302	R.Horizon	12.30	554	444
6400	Weekend MR.	10.30	343	333
6950	Alan Masyga	01.12	—	121
6955	Mystery R., US!	00.00	—	121
6955	WLIS, US!	00.24	—	121
6955	Alan Masyga	00.59	—	121
7303	R.Europe	10.35	—	433
7484	R.Waves	08.30	—	444
7501	R.Internazionale	10.00	454	444
11401	R.Waves	09.00	—	242

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16th 1996

3916	Unid	17.00	—	322
3920	R.Driland	16.44	—	444
3925	TBS?	17.16	—	-2
3927	unid	00.24	—	-2
3945	R.Free London	19.50	—	444
3985	SWR Switzerl.	23.01	—	333
3985	R.RTN	23.03	—	333
6200	Unid	09.59	—	232
6200	UCB	13.53	544	—
6238	Jolly Roger	13.30	544	322
6266	UK Radio	12.27	242	-2
6270	Action	13.09	—	332
6272	Unid	15.00	—	333
6274	WNKR	17.30	—	-2
6280	Crystal?	12.18	—	-2
7125	Rockit	09.10	—	-3
7500	Internazionale	14.10	—	-2

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17th 1996

3900	R.Moonlight	10.23	—	333
3910	unid, Dutch	10.23	—	232
3910	Reflections	16.12	554	—
3911	R.Daiwa	10.14	—	444
3912	Blackbeard	11.45	444	—
3920	Subterranean S.	12.50	544	333
3921	R.Brigitte	10.14	343	322
3945	Free London	08.30	544	222
3985	R.Sparks	16.50	444	333
3985	Rock-it R.	17.00	343	333
6125	Subterr.Sounds	10.22	—	-3



6200	R.Benelux	09.20	—	422
6201	UCB	09.30	544	322
6205	Blue Sky	10.26	—	-3
6207	R.Born Free	13.43	—	443
6207	Crazy Wave R.	09.20	—	444
6210	Empire R.	10.21	—	333
6215	NAPRS	10.00	—	443
6215	Torenvalk	12.27	—	-2
6215	Heideroosje	13.25	—	-4
6218	Unid	09.46	—	333
6220	Laser Hot Hits	11.33	333	—
6238	Britain	09.04	—	232
6238	Jolly Roger R.	09.35	544	333
6238	KIWI	12.05	544	332
6238	Laser Hot Hits	13.40	544	332
6239	R.Benelux	09.30	—	433
6245	R.Benelux	09.40	—	433
6250	R.Dr.Tim	09.45	—	322
6250	unid	10.02	—	343
6250	V.of Reflection	14.33	—	-3
6255	Ozone	11.44	544	333
6260	V.of Reflection	08.50	—	-3
6260	R.Onbekend	13.30	—	333
6266	UK Radio	10.21	242	-2
6266	R.Oscar	10.55	—	333
6268	R.Benelux	10.47	—	433
6270	Action	08.52	343	322
6270	Heideroosje	09.26	—	544
6270	R.Dr.Tim	11.04	—	322
6270	Benelux	10.42	—	-3
6275	WNKR	08.34	454	333
6277	Zwarte Panter	11.36	—	444
6280	TBS/TAR	08.16	—	-4
6280	R.Airwolf	09.22	—	333
6280	R.Pandora	10.50	544	333
6280	KDED	12.07	444	—
6290	Good Fun R.	09.27	—	322
6307	Farmers	10.26	554	554
6400	R.Free London	13.00	454	443
6942	ABC Dublin	10.30	343	—
7282	Mistero	09.45	—	-4
7360	European MR	13.00	—	—
7380	unid	14.09	—	-4
7435	R.Flamingo	11.37	—	444
7435	R.Stardust	12.40	—	332
7435	PRRS	12.57	—	332
7501	R.Internazionale	10.10	454	444
12257	Wrekin' Radio	10.30	—	-2

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23rd 1996

3469	VOX America	20.32	—	-4
3920	R. Boomerang	16.28	544	—
3920	R.Korak	23.34	—	444
3985	Rock-it	15.36	544	—
3985	SWR Switzerl.	23.00	—	444
3985	R.RTN	23.02	—	444
6201	UCB	09.35	444	333
6238	Jolly Roger R.	12.19	544	333
6238	KIWI R.	13.31	544	333
6238	Laser Hot Hits	13.45	—	232
6240	unid	22.46	—	222
6241	unid	22.00	—	222
6270	R.Dr Tim	13.48	—	-2
6282	unid	12.21	—	232
6306	Farmers	14.53	544	-2
6956	unid, US	22.58	—	121

7125	Rock-it R.	12.30	—	-2
7306	R.Marabu	08.40	—	-2
7306	Alfa Radio	10.00	—	-2

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24th 1996

3910	Reflections	16.02	554	—
3920	Korak R.	01.00	—	-4
3925	unid	09.37	—	-2
6206	Born Free	10.16	—	-3
6210	VO Reflection	10.00	—	-4
6220	unid	10.05	—	-2
6220	Laser Hot Hits	13.33	333	—
6235	R.Wonderful	10.20	—	-3
6237	Jolly Roger	08.58	444	-4
6238	BRI	10.00	544	-3
6238	KIWI R.	13.31	444	—
6240	Radio Driland	11.20	—	-4
6242	unid	10.00	322	—
6243	Radio Onbekend	09.13	—	-3
6245	Radio Brigitte	10.30	—	-4
6250	Alpha Mike	11.22	—	-2
6250	Radio Northsea	11.24	—	-3
6250	VO Reflection	11.44	—	-4
6252	Crazy Wave	09.50	—	-3
6256	Ozone	11.20	544	-3
6260	Transatlantic	10.21	—	-4
6260	VO Reflection	10.41	242	-4
6266	UK Radio	08.57	444	-3
6270	R. Onbekend	09.30	—	-3
6271	Radio Perfekt	09.25	—	-3
6280	V.of Reflection	08.49	333	—
6280	R. Mirage	08.58	—	-3
6280	The Fox	09.53	454	-4
6285	unid	11.10	444	—
6290	Good Fun R.	09.05	—	-2
6295	Reflections	16.02	141	—
6298	VoReflection	08.43	—	-3
6306	Farmers	08.45	554	-4
6400	WMR	11.05	544	-3
6940	ABC Dublin	12.08	454	—
7360	European MR	12.00	—	554
7484	Waves	09.05	—	-3
7490	Pamela	09.15	—	-3
7500	Internationale	08.28	343	-3

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30th 1996

3915	R.Onbekend	11.15	—	433
3945	Free London	23.08	—	222
3985	Rock-it	15.35	454	—
3985	Sunshine	23.02	—	333
6204	UCR	13.00	544	—
6220	Laser Hot Hits	11.51	242	—
6238	Jolly Roger	11.20	—	333
6250	Voice of Refl.	13.21	242	—
6275	R.Marabu	11.22	343	444
6284	R.Brigitte	11.21	—	333
6306	Farmers	11.23	544	544
6307	Dr. Tim	12.40	544	333
7125	Rock-it R.	12.15	—	232

SUNDAY DECEMBER 1st 1996

3899	R.Moonlight	10.30	343	333
3910	R.Boemerang	10.15	—	554
3910	Reflections	16.00	554	—

3911	R.Select	10.05	242	322
3912	R.Blackbeard	12.10	—	222
3912	Subterr. Sounds	12.24	544	—
3915	R.Onbekend	10.07	—	333
3945	Free London	08.30	544	444
3985	Rock-it	17.05	444	—
6203	UCR	11.25	544	—
6207	Born Free	10.55	—	343
6220	Jolly Roger	09.00	—	222
6220	Laser Hot Hits	11.00	242	232
6238	Jolly Roger	08.39	544	333
6252	Free Style R.	08.40	—	433
6252	Star Club R.	11.45	—	343
6252	Dr.Tim	12.04	—	343
6254	Ozone	11.17	444	333
6260	R.Coroner	10.35	—	332
6266	UK R.	10.05	—	333
6270	V.of Reflection	11.19	—	343
6273	R.R.P.A.	09.23	—	444
6280	Airwolf R.	09.26	—	444
6280	R.Pandora	11.20	—	433
6290	Delta R.	09.45	343	433
6298	V. of Reflection	08.39	—	333
6308	Dr.Tim	11.00	554	554
6308	Farmers	14.20	554	554
6400	Free London	08.30	—	343
7490	Pamela	09.15	—	-2
7500	Internazionale	15.05	343	-3

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7th 1996

3911	R.Daiwa	11.15	—	444
3925	R.Mariquita	22.10	—	333
3935	Benelux/CWR	23.46	—	443
3985	Rock-it	15.09	—	-3
3985	Verein Jugendr.	23.10	—	444
3985	R.Natalie	23.35	—	444
6272	Action?	14.30	—	-1
6280	R.Grauen	10.58	—	232
6306	La Voz del CID	11.15	—	342
6955	unid	23.59	—	232
7125	Rock-it R.	12.00	—	444
7306	R.Marabu	11.21	—	433
7306	R.Europe	12.30	—	433
11413	Pirana	20.09	—	-4

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8th 1996

3911	unid	10.03	—	433
3925	R.Mariquita	09.19	—	232
3935	Benelux/CWR	00.00	—	332
3985	Jugend R.	16.01	—	333
3985	R.Nathalie	16.30	—	322
3985	Rock-it R.	17.55	—	333
6202	UCB	09.30	—	433
6206	R.Born Free	10.40	—	333
6220	Laser Hot Hits	10.02	—	232
6220	unid	13.01	—	222
6238	Britain R.	10.15	—	333
6245	Benelux/CWR	09.16	—	332
6245	Weekend MR.	14.11	—	333
6245	R.Mistero	14.15	—	232
6252	unid	09.11	—	222
6256	Ozone R.	11.20	—	332
6275	R.Marabu	09.19	—	333
6290	R.Good Fun	09.15	—	333
6308	Farmers	09.00	—	333



6926 Pirana	23.47	—	-4
7282 R.Mistero	10.06	—	222
7490 Pamela	10.44	—	-3
12256 Wrekin R.Int.	08.39	—	232

GENERAL/CONDITIONS

As you can read elsewhere in the magazine, there is every appearance that the minimum sunspot activity has passed in recent months. And that means a **new cyclus** has just started. Fact is that conditions are improving each year at the beginning of the autumn. Sept. 29th saw already fair to good conditions, a week later on Sun Oct. 6th conditions were the best in months. And that resulted in a great number of stations to be heard on mainly 48 & 76 metres. At least some 25 different stations were to be heard on the various bands in the first Oct. weekend!! By the way: Sun Dec. 8th was raked by starnge conditions, long skip etc. Hopefully that won't be the case over the X-Mas Season...

As 48mb conditions have significantly improved, the 76 mb has gone long skip implying that coverage of many 76 mb stations is not what it used to be in the Summer period. The result is that less activity on 76 metres has been observed in the past weeks.

The big story was the news which could just be included in the FRS broadcast of Sun Sept. 29th, namely the use of the 48 mb and 76 mb by legal stations. The report reached us via two sources: E.M.R.'s Barry Stephens and RFLs Andy Walker. They both heard it on the RADIO ABC DX-Report of Sunday Sept. 22th. So FRSGDX inquired about this story and sent an Email to Radio ABC's Stig-Hartvig Nielsen who on his turn replied by sending the complete text as being read out in the Radio ABC DX-Report dated Sun Sept. 22nd 1996. Thanks! So far we haven't heard many colleagues reporting this story. Perhaps it blows over... Also included the raid on Dr. Tim, the return of EMR, Radio ABC's close down and VOTN/ RECH on the air with a live marathon broadcast Dec. 31st. This and much more in this Christmas edition!

With the X-Mas Season rapidly approaching, any SW free radio Dixer can/must find something to his liking. The final December week usually is one of th perhaps thé- period with the greatest number of SW hobby pirates being active on the various bands. So: enjoy it!

THE 76 MB REPORT

As always also a bit of medium wave news in this column...

London AM pirate **RADIO ARGUS** returned to the air with tests on 783 kHz from a tower block site from "somewhere" in the capital. Signal seems to be very good as only a small 10W tx is being used. The station plans to leave it on non-stop until the rig either blows up or the DTI come and take it away *** **RADIO BARONES** returned on medium wave November 11th following a long period of inactivity. A fair/good signal was noted on 1638 kHz at 00.00 UTC. Nov. 30th Barones was heard on 1645. Address is Box 73, 7160 AB Neele in Holland ***

RADIO BENELUX and **CRAZY WAVE RADIO** did a joint test on 3935 in the night of Sat Dec. 7th to Sun Dec. 8th. Signal-quality was good although the signal suffered from fade outs caused by the rather long skip conditions. A new tx was tested. Address is (1) *** **RADIO BLACK ARROW** is a Dutch 76 mb broadcaster heard Fri Oct. 11th & Sat Oct. 19th. Frequency was 3920 and a good signal was produced *** Surprisingly **RADIO BLUE SKY** (not be confused with Blue Star) announced during its Oct. 2th broadcast on 3920/3925 kHz the address of the DPRS in Preston! It reads: DPRS, c/o Derek Taylor, 12 Dorman Road, Preston, Lancs, PR2 6AS, UK. Derek Taylor stated that he is not aware about the fact his address was mentioned! Quite some mail is waiting to be sent but Derek awaits a message from Blue Sky's OP that indeed the mail can be sent.

Some DPRS news: Derek Taylor has been lately announcing that taking effect January 1st 1997 his DRPS service will be ceasing all activities. That means reports won't be forwarded anymore; the same applies to the verification service *** **RADIO CENTRAAL**, a Dutch station, was heard on 3922 Sun Sept. 22nd and Sat Oct. 5th. Both times a telephone number was mentioned. In the early 80s Radio Centraal was one of the best known FM pirates from De Hague, getting national publicity because of the many raids. Whether this Radio Centraal has any connection to the De Hague FM station is not known. No address was mentioned *** **FREE RADIO MAKER** is a relatively new Dutch SW station making use of the IRRS facilities every last Friday of the month. The two hour show is aired between 23.00-01.00 UTC on 3985. Ingredients: music, DX-Flash (=DX-news) & letters. For already more than 6 years, the station is active on FM. Sept. 27th the first SW broadcast was heard on 76 metres. Address is Box 561, 4330 AN Middel-

burg in the Netherlands *** **RADIO GRENSJAGER** is one of the most active 76 mb users although the station hasn't been on that much lately. A former 100W army tx is in use, mostly tuned to the station's favourite frequency: 3927. The station transmits from a location very close to the Dutch-Belgian border, in actual facts the broadcasts emanate from Belgian soil! Reports have been suggesting that Grensjager considers to start broadcasting on 41 metres as well. So far this hasn't happened. Address is Box 28, B-2340 Beerse in Belgium. It seems the 32-year old station OP is also putting out FM broadcasts with no less than 400W in stereo! Reports are suggesting the station is willing to start 41 mb broadcasts. So far no attempts have been undertaken *** **RADIO KORAK INT.** was heard Sat Oct. 5th on 3927 playing mostly rock music. Signal-strength was excellent. The station was active on the same frequency Nov. 3rd and 23rd. Address is Box 134, 3780 BC Voorthuizen in the Netherlands ***



RADIO NATALIE, P.O.Box 3260, EE-0090 Tallinn, Estonia is a brandnew station which was aired via the PRRS relay facility Sat Oct. 5th on 3910 kHz. Natalie is the OP's daughter, that declares the station's name. The station will continue via the IRRS and the PRRS. The station owns a tx, however, the rig cannot be used because it needs to be repaired *** The Dutch local FM station **HORIZON 92.9** from Leende in the south of the Netherlands (near Eindhoven) will be airing a special worldwide broadcast on Boxing Day, December 26th, 1996. The programme will be aired a total of four times that day via the facilities of the IRRS Milano and WRMI, Miami (USA). The show will contain local and regional 1996 news and ofcourse the usual Christmas greetings



and music. The schedule:

Via IRRS, Milano:

09.00-10.00 UTC on 7125 KHz and

19.00-20.00 UTC on 3985 KHz

Via WRMI, Miami:

10.00-11.00 UTC on 9955 KHz

23.00-00.00 UTC on 9955 KHz.

Programmes are hosted in Dutch, but the usual bit of English. Write to P.O. Box 80, NL-5595 ZH Leende, Netherlands (return postage appreciated) or e-mail the station at: <t822757@tip.nl> *** **RA-**

DIO JOKEBOX is a new station to be

heard via the SWR Switzerland/IRRS. Fri Oct. 4th saw the station on 3955 and the following day a 60 min. show was noted on 3985. The well produced comedy programme was entirely in the German language. The show was produced in the studios of the local commercial Radio Seefunk in Konstanz. The Wuppertal maildrop (1) was given and 3 US dollars were requested to get a QSL card! *** **KDED**

is a North American SW pirate being relayed on 3900U Sat November 2nd. "Strange talks" were heard. 76 metres needs some variation, so let there be strange talks... *** **INT. MUSIC RADIO**

celebrated its 3rd anniversary Sun Nov. 3rd. Pxs were heard on 3927 just after midnight as well as Sun mornings at 08.25 UTC. This extra long on air party was aired on . Guests were Peter Galliker of SWRS and Sparks colleague Stevie. Congratulations! Ofcourse IMR's activities are not restricted to the 3rd anniversary. See for yourself in our comprehensive logbook. Address is Box 1951, D-79554 Weil am Rhein, Germany *** **RADIO**

SHERWOOD is a new Dutch qso-station being active on 76 and 48 metres. A fair signal was received on 3920 Oct. 27th *** **SUBERRANEAN SOUNDS** returned on SW following a period of silence. The station was heard on 3920 during a few dates in Oct. and November. Signals were fair to good. Address is *** Sun Oct. 20th in the morning hours **RADIO**

TONAIR was heard with a mere 4 watts fed into a 35m longwire on 3934 kHz! And those 4 watts were enough to provide a nice signal... SW amazing? Yes! Address is Box 21, 70101 AA Gaanderen in Holland *** **RADIO TORENVALK** is mostly concentrating on 48 metres, trms on 76 are rare but do happen so now and then, for instance Fri Oct. 4th when 3933 was in use. Address is Box 94, 7038 ZH Zeddam *** **TRANSATLANTIC RA-**

DIO was heard several times on various

76 mb frequencies including 3890L, 3913, 3931 & 3940. More TAR news and a mini-feature elsewhere in this X-Mas edition. Address is Box 4427, 3006 AK Rotterdam. Email: <Trans@pi.net> *** An interesting catch was **VOX AMERICA** on 3469 Sat Nov. 23rd at 20.32 UTC. No further info available! *** Sat Oct. 12th **WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO** experienced some transmitter trouble during a 3945 relay of The Fox, an US station.

SW NEWS

It was a complete surprise to hear from SH Nielsen that **RADIO ABC DENMARK** had closed down Sun October 20th. No doubt the station's broadcasts were very popular among a huge SW audience in Europe. It all started Sun June 23rd and the adventure lasted 18 Sundays. What is the real story about this sudden close down? The only thing we can reveal is that it has something to do with SH Nielsen leaving the Radio ABC group consisting of three very popular Danish FM stations. As you could read in the FRSGDX 141 special ABC feature, the SW activities was the idea of managing-director SH Nielsen. Besides: the pxs were aired under the ABC umbrella. With SH Nielsen's unexpected departure the "linking" factor is missing. SH Nielsen told FRSGDX he will become involved with something new & very exciting. He added he hoped he would perhaps try and start something new on AM at an appropriate moment sometime in future. Good luck !! The end of ABC must be quite disappointing for all those many listeners across Europe, they should pin their hope on the future. ABC's final broadcast was heard Sun Oct. 20th but that broadcast was already a repeat of the one aired 7 days earlier.

ABC DUBLIN was heard on 6630 kHz in the UK in the last October weekend. Address is Box 2876, Dublin 1 in Ireland.

RADIO BLUE SKY is still a mystery with a child's voice and only airing IDs. The station was noted Oct. 13th on 3930 and the 26th on 3920 & 3925.

BRITAIN RADIO INT. keeps on rocking around 6235. Various times BRI was heard on 6235 or 6237. Some of the trms were done with own transmitting equipment while others were relays via Irish JRR. BRI runs a 2nd & 4th Sun schedule

although some extra trms were noticed in the Oct./Nov. period: Nov. 3rd 6220 & the 17th on 6238. BRI will certainly be on air over the Holiday Season with special programmes. Addresses: (4) & Box 53121, 1447 AC Amsterdam in Holland.

CITY FM is a German based station (not to confuse with the RADIO CITY - the station of the cars, on 41metres in USB too) being heard Saturday November 2nd and Sun November 10th via the RFL txs as part of the Marabu programming! The station has been on FM too some years ago but now joined the shortwaves. Wuppertal maildrop was given by DJ Michael and the station will be on again within the RADIO MARABU marathon next Sunday on 6275 kHz.

The French **RADIO CAROLINE** seems to have vanished from SW following a long non-stop period of weekend broadcasts on 6207 and 6205. The station was last heard on Sun Oct. 20th on 6207. The signals heard from the station in the last period before the (temporary??) close down were far from impressive knowing the stations claims to be broadcasting with 130W. If you're curious what's going on, thewn contact them via Box 97, F-62217 Beaurains in France.

RADIO CLCG will be airing its final 1996 pxs mid December. Perhaps the station has been active on the 15th December. So when you read this info, it could have already happened. These final shows will be (have been?) aired on 76 and 48 mb via relays. On 76 metres possibly between approx. 00.00-01.00 UTC and on 48 the following morning 10.00-11.00. An alternative X-mas Show will be aired without X-Mas music, only a few X-Mas greetings and extracts from Old/New Year celebrations as they were aired by the offshore stations in the 60s, 70s & 80s will be played. Address is Box 540101, D-47151 Duisburg in Germany.

CRAZY WAVE RADIO was very active in recent months. Not only during daytime but during nighttime as well. A nighttime test was heard in the early hours of Sun Oct. 20th on 6289 but as far as we know this broadcast was unsuccessful. Although 6260 is CWR's favourite frequency, the station has also been making use of Radio Caroline's (France) absence on 6207 since the last Oct. Sunday. No. 3rd & 17th saw CWR with a nice signal on 6207 kHz. In the mean time Chris Ise, CWR's OP, is



busy preparing the next marathon broadcast of Level 48, "Europe's biggest Free Radio Cooperation". CWR can be reached via (1) but lately the former Mainz address has been reactivated: Box 411131 in D-55068 Mainz, Germany.

DELTA RADIO with operator Pete Edwards seems to be on the air every 1st Sunday from 10 UTC onwards. The Oct. 6th transmission was to be heard on 6290kHz and reception on the continent was fair. Delta Radio is a continuation of RECC remembering the late Norman Nelson! A nice QSL card is available via the following address: (4). Fri November 22nd it was one year ago that Norman sadly died. No special broadcast has been put out around that date to the memory of Norman. We heard some more news via his good friend Neal West who used to compile the RECC DX-section. He said that at present time he cannot drag himself to write up any memorial article about Norman (although this was planned by him a year ago just after Norman died). We'll certainly hear from Neal West at the moment he's written the article.

EASY INTERNATIONAL RADIO finally use the Rueil maildrop (4) for listener's feedback. The station's slogan is "Classic rock hits from the past 35 years - this is Easy Radio Int.". The station can often be found on 6209 kHz with mostly fair signals, at least on the continent.

In the early 80s **EMPIRE RADIO** was a popular SW free radio station. Sun Nov. 17th the station returned on SW 6210 kHz. Although it is thought it was an old tape, we can confirm this was a fresh 1996 show! The news was to be read on one of the radio-related Internet newsgroups. We are not certain whether Dave Cooper, the former OP, is responsible for this return.

In previous issues we have regularly reported about the Dutch powerhouses Radio Horizon/Radio Blue Star (not to be confused with Blue Sky). Since October the station OPs have been using the new name Farmer from Nieuwleusen. In the mean time it seems that Nieuwleusen is not big enough and the official station name is **FARMERS FROM HOLLAND**. One of our sources told us that the former OP of Radio Dutchboy is involved in this project. Word has it that a BC-610 (that's what Tonair said in a QSO some time ago) is being used. For those who do not know: a BC-610 is a US army

- 1 = P.O.Box 220342 / D-42373 WUPPERTAL / Germany
- 2 = 14 Stone Row/ COLERAINE/ Co. Londonderry/ BT52 1EP/ Northern Ireland
- 4 = P.O.Box 130/ 92504 RUEIL Cedex/ France
- 5 = 12 Dorman Rd/ PRESTON/ Lancs PR2 6AS/ England
- 7 = P.O.Box 386/ 5900 AJ VENLO/ the Netherlands
- 8 = Box 293/ Merlin/ Ontario N0P 1W0/ Canada
- 9 = 34B Drift Road/ Clanfield/ Waterlooville/ Harts PO8 0JL/ England
- 10= SRS/ Östra Porten 29/ 442 54 YTTERBY/ Sweden

tx being manufactured in the 1940s. This solid state unit has an output of a least 500W and that could be the key to the mega signal of the station. In the past weeks the station was mostly heard on 6307 kHz with live programming, certain listeners call the station every 30 minutes... It's rather amazing to see this powerful station broadcasting every Sunday for several hours for already many months without any RCD action. Not that we would like to see a raid!! But it's interesting to see the Dutch RCD is tolerating this. Their policy seems to have softened! It appears the tx is not at the same location the studio is. Address is Box 108, 7200 AC Dalfsen.

RADIO FREE LONDON is doing very well at the moment. With the improving band conditions very good results have been achieved on 76 and 46 metres. The station can be heard each 1st and 3rd Sun on 3945/6400. Trms usually start on sat evening at approx. 19.00 UTC and close down is some 24 hours later on the early Sun evening. Several times the 3945 and 6400 were received in very good quality in Moscow which is a distance of no less than 2500 kilometres! In the night of Sat Oct. 5th to Sun Oct. 6th RFL's on 6400 broadcast was received with 0=4 in Moscow. That same weekend the 3945 tx which is usually switched off at 08.00 UTC on Sun mornings, remained on air all day to test how signal would behave during daytime. During the Sun pxs a new presenter was heard: his name is Tony Randell, an old RFL voice from the roaring 1970s who did his first show in years! An extra 3945 trm was heard on Fri evening Oct. 4th prior to the normal 3rd weekend activities. In the night of Sat Oct. 12th to Sun Oct. 13th RFL tested a new X-tal on 3920: reception on the European continent was excellent, also during the early Sun morning RFL provided a solid signal. Sun Oct. 20th RFL announced a Halloween "Night of the Dead" for Thursday evening Oct. 31st as from 19.00

UTC onwards on 3945. Thursday October 31st however an Email was received in the morning hours: "Due to the strong winds across the UK last weekend, there will be no transmission tonight because the winds have taken our 76mb aerial down. Due to lack of time and the fact the work must be done in the dark, we don't think we'll make it this evening." This was not the end of the story because at 17.00 hours another Email reached us telling that an emergency aerial system was erected enabling RFL to go on air that evening. And so RFL was putting out the planned Halloween special on 3945. The next Saturday, Nov. 2nd, while setting up the two txs for the usual 1st weekend programming, the RFL people had problems with RF getting into the 3945 rig. The problem was caused by the 76 mb aerial not hanging properly. As a result 3945 was not in operation the first November weekend. A new and proper aerial system was successfully tested Sat evening/night Nov. 9th on 3945. Andy Walker says that at present time one of the old RFL engineers is working on a very powerful rig to be used by RFL SW during special occasions. The following Email was received early December covering RFL's X-Mas broadcasting activities: "We start on Saturday evening 21st Dec. thru to Saturday evening 28th Dec. 24 hours a day for 7 days over the X-Mas holiday. Radio Free London will be on the air over Christmas broadcasting around the clock on 3945 and 6400 kHz. Here's what to expect from them in their own terms: you will have a gay X-Mas listening to Tony Randall and even have fun over the holidays hearing the latest voice to RFL, Squeaky John with his over the top brand of humour. Andy Walker will tell your children what you're afraid to do, tell them there is no Santa Claus and he has absolute proof that Jesus was a heroine junkie. Jodie will be playing lots of devil rock music at this religious time of the year, and Eric May will try to be nasty in a bid to fit in. The only nice thing about RFL this X-Mas is Terry Philips which means he will need a bucket handy at the



station. At least we are outside the boundary of the Germany PTT Hiemen ! Lets be careful out there." Latest news: RFL planned to leave its 3945 outlet on air all day because in the past weeks reception on 76 mb during daytime has been satisfactory, in some places even better than on 6400! Address is Box 99, 1st Floor Suite, 253 Selhurst Rd, London SE25 6XT. Email: rflsw@aol.com. Tel.: 378-355174, use this number only when RFL is on air!!

RADIO FRIENDSHIP is a new joint project by Swiss IMR and German Radio Francis Drake which was heard this Saturday night on 75 metres. The usual c/o Yves address in Weil am Rhein is the address to write to.

RADIO GRAUEN is a new station making its debut broadcast on 6279 Sat Dec. 7th. A fair signal was noted, pxs were in German and contained grunge. Address is (1). We hope to publish some more facts in issue 143!

INT. MUSIC RADIO is now using 7435 kHz on a regular basis. Some time ago there was talk of weekend tests starting around 10.00 UTC on 9905 & 9980 but so far we haven't received any confirmation whether these tests have really been aired. Address is Box 1951, D-79554 Weil am Rhein in Germany.

News from the **IRRS** via the Internet: SW stations WRMI in Miami, Florida and IRRS in Milan, Italy will be offering free airtime during the month of December, 1996 to producers of cultural and educational radio programming. During December, 1996, IRRS-Shortwave and WRMI will be offering airtime to new IPAR clients completely free of charge. Those programmers who wish to continue after the free trial period will be able to do so at the special IPAR rate of US\$1.00 per minute on each station. Persons or organizations who would like to take advantage of the International Public Access Radio free airtime offer during the month of December 1996 on either or both stations may contact them via E-mail at:

< IPAR@nexus.org > or in Europe :
NEXUS-Int'l Broadcasting Association,
PO Box 11028, I-20110 Milano, Italy.
Fax: +39-2-706-38151, Telephone:
+39-2-266-6971, E-mail: info@nexus.org
and website: < http://www.nexus.org >.

In the Americas :

Radio Miami International, P.O. Box
526852, Miami, Florida 33152, USA.

E-mail: 71163.1735@compuserve.co m
More information available on the WWW
at < http://www.nexus.org/IPAR >. A few weeks ago the IRRS had an antenna damage during the weekend but came back on the air on Sundays at 14.25UTC unexpectedly with a Rock-it Radio show on usual 3985 kHz for a test transmission. Sometimes IRRS used real USB mode rather than A3A. According to Stevie of SWR SWITZERLAND there should be free radio relays via the IRRS MILANO every Saturday at 23.00 hrs UTC on 3985 kHz. This should replace the Sunday afternoon broadcasts.

In October **RADIO MARABU** was heard twice over the tx of RFL. Both trms lasted 24 hours. During both October trms, 6275 was in use. Friday Oct. 6th Marabu signed on at approx. 18.00 UTC, close down was the following Sat evening. A total of six 4 hour blocks were aired. Another 24 hour broadcast started a week later on Saturday Oct. 12th in the early evening, close down was Sunday Oct. 13th. Especially during the latter occasion the 6275 tx provided a good signal on the continent and the UK. The same story was "repeated" during the first two November weekends. This time it was joint broadcast with Radio City FM, the first two hours were presented by City FM while Marabu did the final two hours of the 4 hour block.

November 3rd 09.00-11.00 UTC also saw a Marabu test on 7484 kHz/41 metres. A good signal was heard although the mod level was too low. Tests were also announced for the 2nd & 3rd Nov. weekend but we doubt whether Marabu was on air on 7484 on these dates. Radio Marabu address is Box 1166, D-49187 Belm in Germany. Email address is:

< RadioMarabu@t-online.de >. Website:
< http://www.dma.be/p/amphion/sztuka/marabu.html >.

Marabu is to be heard via a number of Italian FM stations as well: Radio Black Out in Torino on 105.25 every Monday 15.30-16.30 and every Wednesday 11.30-12.30 CET; Radio Cortina 103.8 every Sunday 19.00-20.00 CET; Radio Onda Rossa (Rome) 93.3 & 93.45 two hours on a weekly basis.

RADIO MISTERO GHOST PLANET (RMGP) recently started to verify reports with an excellent computer color printed QSL card and an information letter. The stations started on FM 88 MHz with 10 watts in March 1976. In 1979 26310 kHz was used but this was reported by some

radio HAMs only. After 3 months of irregular transmissions they ceased trms and just several years later the former crew decided to restart Radio Mistero on SW. Actually the staff consists of 3 boys - Capatin Ghost, Riff Raff and Casper and 2 girls Jasmine and Magenta. The first transmissions of this new period were done on 7240 kHz, later 7247 was used with shows of Italian pops from 1965 to 1980. In July and August 1996 some 48 mb tests were carried out Nowadays the station can be heard on 7280 kHz from 08.30 UTC onwards and the Wuppertal drop (1) is the address for reports etc.

RADIO METROPOLIS made a first test on Sunday Nov. 10th on 6252. Unfortunately both signal and modulation happened to be rather poor! The Station is operated by ex Radio Illusion & Strar Club Radio OPs , so it seems that SCR is history now.

RADIO MOZ (Musik Ohne Zensur = Music Without Censor) is a new station with a familiar sounding voice ??). The station was heard via UK-based Radio Pandora October 6th, 20th & Nov. 3rd. Frequencies were 6280 and 6289 (20th Oct.) The station mostly played strange indie music. Address is c/o SRS, Ostra Porten 29, 44254 Ytterby in Sweden.

Quite a number of DXers must have been confused with the broadcasts from Telstar 901/ **RADIO NORDSEE** in October and November. A person put out trms using the names Nordsee & Telstar 901. Mike Anderson, the German Nordsee OP, informed us that the October 27th broadcast on 6250 was the only one coming from the original Nordsee. All other broadcasts (for instance Oct. 13th, 20th and Nov. 3rd) using this name or Delta 901 were fake ones. The last broadcast of the fake Nordsee was Nov. 24th when a brief USB test was carried out on 6250. The most irritating thing was that during one of the fake trms, the mobile telephone number of Mike Anderson as given on air so that many listeners thought it was a phone-in show!! The use of the name Telstar 901 has something to do with a FM station calling itself Radio Telstar. This FM project is closely connected to Radio Nordsee on SW. The 27th October broadcast was carried out with a 80W tx and reception in Central Europe was good. This was the first trm since 30 months, the first hour non-stop mx was aired followed by a one hour show hosted by Mike A. who said he



hoped his station would be back on short-wave around X-Mas or New Year's Eve. In 1997, regular broadcasts shall commence with a mailbag programme and a media magazine. At least 10 broadcasts are planned. RNI will be concentrating on Classic Rock and free radio related songs. The media show will be aired once a month and will be different from most DX-Shows heard on the free radio bands (how many informative DX-shows are nowadays aired within the free radio SW scene-PV?) paying attention to jingle packages, background infos and playing rare extracts of radio stations. Address is (1).

We have news from **RADIO PIRANA** in South America. The station tested Nov.2nd on 11415 and was heard in the US at 21.59 UTC. A second test was planned between 0200-0400 UTC on 6925 kHz. This one would be aired Nov. 2nd or 3rd. We can not reveal whether this test went on air. Sat Dec. 7th Pirana tested on 11412/6926 kHz and was heard in the USA on both channels! Apart from (1) you may also try Casilla 2571, 1000-Buenos Aires, Argentina. Main frequencies are 6925 & 11413 kHz.

Here's the latest winter schedule from **ROCK-IT RADIO**. Rock-it Radio via the IRRS in Milan for Europe:

<u>Saturdays:</u>	
0830 - 0930 utc	7125 Khz
12.00-1300 utc	7125 Khz.
1500 - 1600 utc	3985 Khz.
<u>Sundays:</u>	
1700-1800 utc	3985 Khz.

The station is also being aired over the WRMI tx based in Florida, the USA. These broadcasts are beamed to the Americas and South Africa on Sundays 20.00-21.00 UTC on 9955 Khz.

The Rock It Radio Web Page, <www.alp-com.it/hamradio/rock_it.htm> is updated with Rock-It Radio Shop, T-shirt, mug and other interesting merchandise from this station.

RADIO SHERWOOD is a new station Dutch QSO station which was heard Sun Oct. 6th on 6250 & 6270. QSo's with Dr. Tim & TAR were noted. Signal-strength was certainly not bad! Nov. 3rd saw the station using 6260. You can contact R.Sherwood via c/o Dr Tim (Wuppertal).

STAR CLUB RADIO doesn't exist in it's

old form any longer. Ray Clark is now working together with Illusion, their partner-name is Metropolis. The two other guys from the Star Club Team, have decided to start their own station. This station is called Freestyle Radio and can be contacted via (10).

SWRS (NOT SRS!) has got a new magazine on the market. It's called 'SWRS NEWS' and is ONLY in German. A sample copy costs 3IRC's and should be sent to: SWRS NEWS, P.O.Box 510,CH-4010 Basel,Switzerland.

Email: <scarlett@swissonline.ch>.

You can listen to SWRS every Saturday evening starting at 23.00 UTC and Sunday afternoons at 16.00 UTC on 3985 kHz.The mailing address is: SWRS, P.O.Box 510,4010 Basel,Switzerland. E-mail address:<scarlett@swissonline.ch>

RADIO DR. TIM was raided on Sun Nov. 24th at 10.40 UTC. Three Bundespost officials and two police men visited his house. They "only" confiscated the transmitting equipment including a 100W tx and separete modulator. The studio-equipment wasn't touched. It appears that the German authorities had already tracked him down at an earlier stage, in other words: they knew the location and were awaiting the moment the tx was switched on. Already one week after the raid, the station returned on the airwaves. Saturday Nov. 30th Dr. Tim was heard during a joint programme with "The farmers from Holland", Radio Torenvalk, Radio Perfekt & Radio Nordsee (the real one...) on 6307 kHz. Pxs were aired from the Radio Blue Sky studio somewhere in the Eastern region of the Netherlands. Sunday Dec. 1st Dr. Tim was again being heard on 6307 with a two hour relay in which the raid story of the previous week was being told in detail. During this 6307 relay- a very powerful signal was to be heard- further 76/48 mb relays were announced; it was also said the station will be on air with a Christmas Special. By the way: Dr. Tim was also heard on 6252, possibly via Star Club Radio. The output was similar to that on 6307. According to a few German sources, it was in this same broadcast that Dr. Tim was poking fun at the German Bundespost. Some German persons, insiders in the German SW free radio scene, described Dr. Tim's behaviour as highly provocative both to the Bundespost and to other German pirate OPs. As a reaction a number of Emails circulated on the Internet in which these people expressed their

worries-and angers. From their point of view the on air comments made by Dr. Tim could bring German stations in trouble. It's obvious Dr. Tim was and still is very disappointed about what happened. But even then you must try and calm down, don't challenge authorities! Anyway, the reason for the raid is perhaps the fact Dr. Tim was too active. In the past months he was almost each weekend on air, often on Saturdays and Sundays. Good luck and hopefully the fine won't be too high.... Dr. Tim has a special **raid qsl** available!! Address is (1).

RADIO TORENVALK had two German visitors, **Radio Perfekt** and **Radio Dr.Tim**, in his studio on Sunday morning Oct. 20th. During the show on 6215, much country was played. The Zeddarn address was mentioned for listeners' reports for this joint broadcast. Sun Oct. 27th RTI was doing a px with TAR on 6280. Also in Nov, the station was heard on various frequencies. Torenvalk is giving away a special comic-strip with every report. Every comic-strip is about Torenvalk, so it maybe a good idea to collect the complete series. Address is Box 94, 7038 ZH Zeddarn.

TRANSATLANTIC RADIO (see also mini station-portrait) claims to have been receiving a reception report from Chili, South America for a broadcast carried out Nov. 11th!! Well done. During the past two months TAR was regularly heard on 6260. Oct. 20th also saw a qso with IMR on 7435L. Sun Nov. 3rd at 11.00 UTC TAR tested a new type of antenna with a power of 175W. In one or another way the station had problems with the modulation resulting in a rather disappointing signal. Address is Box 4427, 3006 AK Rotterdam in the Netherlands. Email: <trans@pi.net>.

Perhaps almost forgotten: **THE VOICE OF THE NETHERLANDS & RADIO EAST COAST HOLLAND....** In the past years both OPs have been inactive on the free radio SW bands. But: 1996 won't pass without a broadcast from these two stations. In the past few years the stations built a tradition with their joint Old Year's broadcast. 1995 was an exception, because of various personal circumstances no pxs were aired. But, Dec. 31st 1996 both stations will be back on the air with a live marathon broadcast on 48 metres. Listeners are invited to call the station during the broadcast: following your Int. access



code dial 31-524-291780. A powerful tx will be used and tests have already been taking place in November and on Saturday December 14th. During the latter occasion 6245 was in use and non-stop music was put on the air. Signal-strength was good, the modulation was loud. For the upcoming broadcast you can write to both addresses: VOTN, Box 669, 7900 AM Hoogetveen and RECH, Box 536, 7900 AR Hoogetveen.

An interesting catch was the station calling itself **VOICE OF REFLECTION**. Sun Nov. 17th VoR was heard on 6218, 6250 & 6260. A week later signals were heard on 6210, 6260, 6280 & 6298. On 6280 a religious px in English was heard at 08.49 UTC?? We have no further info... According to SRS the voice sounded like the one heard on Blue Sky, also a mysterious station. Perhaps that's the solution of the mystery!

RADIO WAVES INT. celebrated its birthday (13th) in the first weekend of November. Sat the 2nd RWI was heard on 11401, on Sunday 11401 was on (fair) as well as 7484 (strong, mod too low). The output on both channels was not simultaneously. Congratulations to Peter Hills for being on SW for already so long! RWI will be active around Christmas time on the usual 11401 and perhaps also on 7484. In addition there will be relays via WRMI on 9555 khz on Dec 27th (02.00 - 03.00 utc) and via the IRRS on 7125 kHz on Dec 28th (13.00 - 14.00 utc) and on 3985 khz on Dec 29th (23.00 - 00.00 utc). RWI's homepage can be found via: < www.imagnet.fr/~rwaves/index.htm >, Email: < rwaves@imagnet.fr >, "normal" address is (4).

WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO carried out the usual 2nd & 4th Sun broadcasts on 6400. On the other Sundays RFL is occupying 6400. WMR was also heard during a number of occasions on 'normal' 48 mb frequencies. Oct. 13th 6244 was in use, during the broadcast there were problems with the transmitter. Two weeks later WMR did a 500W test on 6244! 6244 was also in use Sun Nov. 10th. WMR's 6400 signal on the continent is just fair, but certainly not very comfortable to listen to. The 'problem' is that Jack's using a low-powered tx in contrast with some of the 6245 trms where much more power was used. Hopefully WMR will be active over the X-Mas period with a live phone-in! Some last news: WMR had problems with

its tx and for that reason no pxs were aired Sun Dec. 8th. A test was carried out on 6296 using a different 100W tx but that rig also gave problems... Address is (2) and Email: < rflsw@aol.com >.

WEST & NORTH KENT RADIO unexpectedly returned to the airwaves on 6275 kHz Sunday November 17th. WNKR was put out by RFL's 6275 tx as a favour to Dave Martin for doing some repairs to the RFL rigs. On the continent a solid WNKR was to be heard all morning and afternoon. Pxs consisted of rock music. As far as we know WNKR will be returning on SW over the X-Mas period, but this time with an own transmitter. For the Nov. 17th pxs, WNKR made use of RFL's address and Email facilities: Box 99, 1st Floor Suite, 253 Selhurst Rd, London SE25 6XT. Email: rflsw@aol.com.

WREKIN RADIO INT. has announced to be on air X-Mas Day December 25th starting at 08.00 UTC in the (early) morning. Plans are to continue till 06.00 UTC the following morning, that means a 22 hour marathon broadcast! Planned are two 10 hour blocks and in between 2 hours of good old Luxy 208 nostalgia. The Dec. 25th broadcast will be the last WRI one for the time being. The station's staff is hoping to obtain a licence permitting them to put out legal FM broadcasts on a local scale. Any pirate activities could endanger their application. No doubt WRI will return on SW in case the station doesn't obtain a FM licence... We'll have to wait and see. Address is 51 Eastwood Blvd, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex SS0 0BY. Email: < 100557.2617@compuserve.com >.

RADIO ZODIAC has been experimenting with an indoor antenna. Sun Nov. 3rd saw this British station testing the antenna on 6220. Signal-quality on the continent was only poor. Oct. 20th & 27th saw RZI on 6280 & 6270 respectively. Address is since a few months (1).

ZWARTE PANTER (Black Panther) is a relatively new Dutch station which was heard on a number of frequencies close to 6270. A test on 6265 was aired Oct. 6th. Transmitter power seems to be 25W. A very nice signal was heard on 6283 Sat Nov. 2nd on 6283. Sun Nov. 17th the station was interfering with WNKR on 6275 Address is unknown.

SW NEWS IN BRIEF

RADIO BENELUX hasn't returned to 41 metres yet. Although there was talk of a return on 41 metres- a few years ago BNL used 7480 as a fixed channel- only 48 mb frequencies were used in the past two months. Among the frequencies being used in November are 6200, 6238, 6245, 6268 & 6290. Address is (1) *** **RADIO HEIDEROOSIE** joint forces with **RADIO ACTION** resulting in a Nov. 17th programme on 6270. Signal quality was good! Use the Zeddham address: P.O.Box 20, 7038 ZH Zeddham in the Netherlands *** Sun Nov. 24th **RADIO DRILAND** tested the tx in preparation for the X-Mas shows. The 6240 signal was fair. Address is Box 1732, D-48578 Gronau in Germany *** If you logged **RADIO EXPERIMENTAL** Sept. 22nd on 6257, then you caught Ozone Radio's Gary Stevens working under a different name for this occasion *** **INT. FRS** is a new project relaying US station **The Fox** Sept. 29th. A strong signal was noted on 6290. Addresses seem to (1) & (8) *** **RADIO MISTERO** from Italy-also calling itself Radio Mistro Ghost Planet-was heard on 7280 during a few occasions but also on 48 around the 6250-6270 qso range. Mostly fair signals are heard in Western Europe. Since September (1) is in use *** **RADIO MIRAGE** (1) was heard on the usual 6280 Nov. 24th. signal was fine *** **RADIO METROPOLIS** seems to be a new German station, any info about QRA? *** **NORTHERN MUSIC RADIO** is hoping at starting trms with an own tx in 1997 *** **RADIO JOYSTICK** seems to have become the victim of a spoof station as on Sunday Oct. 20th an unknown OP played German Schlager and 50ies music instead of disco, funk and soul!! *** **RADIO PAMELA** was active on 7490 Oct. 20th & Nov. 24th. fair signals were heard both times. Address is Box 35, CH-6027 Romerswil in Switzerland *** **RADIO PERFEKT** was heard several times on 6217 & 6241. The station is using an own tx having an output of 80W. Not to wonder the station is putting out fairly strong signals. The raid of Dr. Tim will possibly affect the activities of the Perfekt OP in the next weeks (?). Address is (1) *** The **PRRS** is relaying stations on 7435L. Radio Flamingo and Stardust were noted Nov. 17th with fair signals via the PRRS *** **RADIORAMA**, the Italian DX -magazine, is back on the WWW, the new QRA is: < <http://www.xnet.it/radorama> >. E-mail: < radorama@xnet.it > *** **RADIO REBEL 105** popped up on 6241 Sept. 29th. RR 105 was a station active in



the 1980s being off air for several years. The broadcast was put out by Radio Perfekt. Address is (1) *** **SUD-WEST RADIO** from Germany conducted a transmitter test Sept. 22nd on 6260. A week later SWR was active on the same channel. SWR takes part in Level 48 as well. Address is (1) *** **UK RADIO** announced the phonenummer 0402250286 and the QRA P.O.Box 53, Bilston, Wolverhampton, WY14 6YS, West - Midland *** The address for UCB - **UNITED CHRISTIAN BROADCASTERS** is P.O.Box 255, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 8YY, UK *** **DE Vliegende Antenne** (Flying Antenna...) is a Dutch station being heard in good quality on 6280 Sun Oct. 27th. No further info available *** Captain Eddy's **RADIO AIRPLANE** was heard again via **Radio Pandora** on 48 metres with an old programme. In the px the old Wellsville maildrop was mentioned! Make sure that only the new maildrop P.O.Box 1, USA-Belfast, NY 14711 can be used!

REST OF THE WORLD

As regular readers of the SW column will know, the majority of US pirates on SW operate on or very close to 6955. Why is this? An open frequency? Or another reason? The following interesting view comes from Joseph Barnyard: "My theory is that the FCC has effectively "conceded" 6955 to bootlegging as that usage of this frequency has been so predictable for several months without any enforcement actions being taken. The reason for this is to keep the pirates off of other frequencies where they may cause interference. I stress that the foregoing is only a theory. In my days we used the frequency ranges 7300 to 7500 with 7355 being my favorite. This was ofcourse before the International broadcasters discovered the region, and I still check it on a regular basis. In addition to 6955, you should check 13900-14000, 6200-6400, 4000-4100. Also the range between 15000-15100 as that some bootleggers have gone on during the daytime on weekends. Once the sunspots get going (in two or three years) the range between 21450 and 21500 should also show daytime appearances by pirates. I've also heard the on 9330, 6240 and 14550. Pirates have even used frequencies in the 49 metre band. I once used 6125 but didn't get any reception reports. As for SW, things on the West Coast have been slow since Zodiac Radio got busted back in 1989. The LA area was once home to KVHF,

which operated on a regular basis (almost every night) for two years before they were caught. You would think LA would have produced more pirates than they have given the population of the area."

US station **UP YOUR RADIO SHORT-WAVE** was received in Europe on Sat Oct. 5th to Sun Oct. 6th on the usual 6955U *** The **NORTH AMERICAN PIRATE RELAY SERVICE** celebrated it's 4th anniversary in the final October weekend. Unfortunately we were told that with this special farewell transmission - that even some European listeners heard that Saturday night - the NAPRS was ceasing broadcasts after 4 years of broadcasting. We will miss that service from overseas!!... Saturday October 26th the 4th anniversary farewell broadcast started at 23.00 UTC. The show was repeated at 23.00 UTC Sun October 27th. The Sat farewell show was heard in Europe, however in very poor quality on 6970U. At 23.56 UTC the tx was tuned to 6955U. Sun Nov. 17th NAPRS had an one hour relay via an unknown Euro station. This 60 min. repeat of the 4th anniversary farewell show was aired on 6215 kHz. An attractive certificate QSL is sent to those sending in correct reception reports. Address: Box 1, Belfast, NY 14711 in the USA. The NAPRS was one of the best known and most active SW stations relaying a great number of Euro colleagues in recent years. Dick Pistek will be sadly missed on SW! *** Sept. 29th US station **THE FOX** obviously was relayed by Radio Titanic, someone heard an RTI jingle at the end of the 60 min. transmission *** Quite a number of US pirates were heard in Europe in the weekend of Sat November 9th/Sun November 10th. Vov. 9th saw **WLIS** on 6950U at 01.12 UTC while **RADIO SPARKS** from Switzerland was noted on 6955U at 23.23 (via US relay). **MYSTERY RADIO** was also heard on 6955U. November 10th produced **ALAN MASYGA PROJECT** on 6950U & 6955U, **MYSTERY RADIO** and **WLIS** on 6955U *** **RADIO JEMIMA** is the name of a New Zealand based station heard via JRR Ireland in October! Richard Hear is the station's OP and in the mean time reports have been verified. Jemima is using the well-known Kiwi address: P.O.Box 3103, Napier, New Zealand is the maildrop for reports *** **KIWI RADIO** from New Zealand can now be contacted by e-mail: <kiwisagb@xtra.co.nz> is the address. The station announces the following schedule for its December

broadcasts (without dates):

5850v kHz 06.00-07.50 UTC, very irregularly, 30-350W,
7445v kHz 06.00-07.50 UTC, alternative frequency to 7460v kHz, 350-1200W
7460v kHz 06.00-11.00 UTC, alternative frequency to 7445v kHz, 350-1200W
7475v kHz 06.00-11.00 UTC, alternative frequency to 7460v kHz, 350-1200W

Transmissions are aired during the foregoing times and may vary in duration. Broadcasts take place irregularly on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays. The 41 metre band outlet will return to the air before Christmas. The tx was not operational and repairing the system took longer than expected. KIWI has relay programmes from Radio Dynamite (Finland), RCBN (USA), Radio Waves Int'l, Northern Music Radio (Finland), KOLD (USA), Rock-it Radio, Southern Music Radio, Radio Perfekt, Radio Dr Tim, Radio City and The Real Radio USA. In Europe, KIWI Radio is currently being relayed via Jolly Roger Radio from Ireland on 6237 khz. For instance on Sun Oct. 6th & 13th KIWI Radio relays were noted. Local broadcasts on the 51 mb are rare but do happen. There are also transmissions on FM (approx 102.2 MHz).

FIRST EUROPIRATE CONTEST MICHEL RAVIGNEUX

This contest is dedicated to Michel Ravigneux, a rench free radio enthusiast, who suddenly died June 1995. The contest is a means to remember his activity as an active listener of Free Radio hobby stations in Europe during a 20 year period as well his cooperation to many DX-Clubs in this part of the world.

Here is a listing of rules to be followed when taking part in the contest:

- 1) Everyone in Europe may be participant. Entries must be sent to the contest manager's address: Dario Monferini, Via Davanzati 8, IT-20158 Milano in Italy. Final date for your entry is February 1st 1997. Every participant should send two IRC's as a contribution or the equivalent in mint stamps of the country you're living in.
- 2) You may log pirate stations on a world wide basis- no clandestine ones- on frequencies ranging from 520 kHz to 108 MHz during the period December 20th-January 5th 1997. Each station which is reported may be heard once for each frequency they are operating on

To be continued on page 4!

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

GREAT BRITAIN

RAJAR FIGURES

The BBC has regained its lead over commercial radio in Britain but only just, pulling ahead by 0.1 % points, in the latest radio audience figures released by RAJAR. BBC Radio, which includes the 5 BBC national stations, as well as the county and regional stations got a 48.9% share of all listening hours in the third quarter, versus 48.8% for commercial radio. The BBC's best performing station in the latest results was 1FM, with 11.2 million listeners it is still the most listened to station in the UK followed by radio 2 (8.4 million) and Radio 4 (8.2 million). The leading commercial station is Classic FM (4.5 million; former Mungo Jerry lead guitarist John Brunning is working on Classic) followed by Atlantic 252 (3.8 million) and Virgin (3.5 million). Talk Radio has 2.1 million. Realizing this is a national station, this is a disappointing figure knowing that Capital Radio covering the Greater London Area is having 2.9 million FM and 1.3 million AM listeners (line1 radio news/Freewave).

LIBERTY ON 963 AM

Remember Caroline's 963 frequency? London's Liberty is broadcasting on this AM frequency since November. Tests started mid November. The new Liberty started November 29th aiming its output at women in the 30-40 age group. Liberty is the successor of Viva 963. Liberty attracted media attention by its aggressive 3 million pound promotion campaign. During the Nov. tests the non-stop music diet was interspersed by competitions and news. Quite unique knowing these were only tests!! Richard Skinner who used to be Virgin's programme-controller is hosting Liberty's Breakfast Show. Other names include Simon Bates and Bruno Brookes. At present time a good signal is heard over London. The station's slogan is "*putting a smile on the face of London*". The new jingle-package which has been recorded sounds very professional (FRW).

MEDIA ZOO

The satellite station Country Music Radio has announced an updated programme to replace the long-running and highly popular Satellite Surgery, which has twice been voted the best satellite radio programme. The

Satellite Surgery team of Eric Wiltsher and Dave Rhodes will be joined by a team of experts from the world of media, computers and communications, with a view to providing the most up-to-date and entertaining service covering new media from both the consumer and industry perspectives. Regular features on new technology and developments will be included as well as help and advice for listeners, and a media jobs spot. The Media Zoo kicked off on December 11th, in the 8pm to 10pm slot on Wednesday nights that is currently occupied by the Satellite Surgery. Announcing the new line-up Eric Wiltsher said, "This will be one of the fastest radio shows ever. It will be packed with information whilst being light-hearted and it will certainly be approachable radio". CMR is broadcasting on the 7.38/7.56 subcarriers of the CNBC TV station broadcasting on Astra's 10.729 GHz/V transponder (line1 radio news).

FREEDOM FM

The lesbian and gay radio station Freedom FM, which currently broadcasts on satellite, may seek airtime on transmitters covering the UK from abroad, if their current application for a London radio licence is unsuccessful. Station management are thought to be in contact with two major broadcast organisations in Europe (RTL??), with a view to transmitting from one of three locations abroad. The aim would be to cover a significant part of the UK via a powerful AM transmitter, for between 6 and 10 hours a night Freedom FM can currently be heard from midnight to 6am each morning, on the Country Music Radio transponder on Astra..

LONG WAVE

The UK Radio Authority have decided to put a block on plans for the Isle of Man long-wave station, by claiming that they need to use the frequency 225 KHz themselves, in order to licence a 4th national commercial radio station in the UK. The frequency had been undergoing clearance for use on the Isle Of Man, where *Celtic Rose Radio* plan to run a high-power music station aimed at the UK, emulating the success of Atlantic 252. The bolt from the blue came early December when the Radio Authority objections to the new Isle Of Man station were made public. Strictly speaking, the Manx Government are allocated the frequency, but UK authorities were consulted as a matter of course, and the BBC, DTI & Department of

National Heritage raised no objections to the Isle of Man using 225. The Radio Authority's position on the matter is all the more surprising because they had never planned to have a 4th national commercial station on an analogue frequency, and they had publically rubbished long-wave in the past, stating that they would not be licensing any services on the long-wave band. Now it seems that the RA is determined to press a head with plans for INR4, and is hurriedly consulting major broadcasters and other countries about the plans. Despite their sudden interest in licensing a new national station, no one at the Radio Authority is even able to tell yet what general format or market they want the new service to cover, or indeed any of the thinking behind it at all. It's understood that a number of potential problems have not even been considered in the Authority's race to lay claim to a frequency that previously they had not even wanted - the question of an automatic DAB frequency allocation for the INR 4 broadcaster would upset a lot of carefully worked-out plans, while existing national-commercial stations are likely to be less than enthusiastic about a sudden increase in their numbers. What this is really all about, of course, is the Radio Authority's desire to control everything that the British public gets to hear that is not a BBC station. Radio Authority chiefs regularly pound their fists in frustration at the fact that the most listened to commercial station in the UK is frequently the uncontrolled Atlantic252 which beams in from Ireland - indeed it was the success of Atlantic, and the Authority's dislike of it which led them to rubbish the idea of long-wave stations in the past. For years the frequency of 225Khz long-wave has lain dormant, the BBC refusing to use it in 1993 when the listeners threatened a revolt over the planned loss of Radio 4's long-wave. The Radio Authority had ample opportunity to use the frequency to develop the UK radio scene in the past but chose not to do so. Now, when an enterprising company puts together a well-thought out sound proposal to use the frequency via the Isle Of Man - outside UK control - the RA throws a fit, and snatches the frequency away with almost childish spite. You can almost hear the Authority members muttering "No - we don't want the frequency - but we'll put something on it to make damn well sure that no one else can have it". While there's still no official response to the news from the Manx Government and from Celtic Rose, the compa-



ny granted a licence to broadcast from the Island, there is no doubt about what the ordinary Manx resident thinks of the issue. Many regard the handing of the frequency to the RA and ignoring the Manx request as being merely further evidence of frequency imperialism, designed only to stifle the growth of free radio. Islanders with long memories point to the events of 1967, when the Marine Broadcasting Offences Act, which had been rejected by the Manx parliament, was forced on the Isle of Man by the British Government. The decision by the UK Radio Authority to take 225Khz does not however spell the end for the Island's long-wave project - they are still entitled to be allocated a frequency, and can be expected to complain stridently to the UK Government until this comes about (line1 radio news).

CHOICE FM

London station Choice FM has launched a blistering attack on pirate radio stations, in an apparent bid to strengthen its position in the race for the last Londonwide FM licence. Choice, mainly broadcasting to the black community in South London, says to be losing audience and advertisers to the pirates sometimes broadcasting close to or even on top of its 96.9 frequency.

NEW ILR STATION

Sun Sept. 29th saw the start of a new ILR-station covering Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft. 103.4 The Beach is the station's name making use of a jingle-package produced by Steve England's Alfasound. Voice-overs were done by Paul McKenna who started his radio career on Radio Caroline. Nowadays Paul he's conjurer and millionaire- has his own Tvshow broadcasted by many stations.

IRELAND

ATLANTIC 252

Irish long-wave station Atlantic 252 has been celebrating recently- two of its listeners struck lucky with its thousand pound-cash-call within hours of each other last Friday, giving the station a welcome publicity coup. The thousand pound cash-call has been running on and off for the last 4 years, and has proved to be one of the station's most popular features (line1 radio news).



RADIO IRELAND

This new national commercial radio station for Ireland has received no less than 17,000 applications following adverts seeking on-air staff in a number of newspapers. In addition to reading these 17,000 letters, the Radio Ireland management is also busy with listening to 600 demo tapes... This must become a very talented broadcasting team... March 1997 will see the station's launch on FM putting out a MOR format interspersed by news. The music:speech ratio will be 60%:40%. Not only pop music is going to be played: 30% of the musical output must be of Irish origin (for instance Irish folk music). The studio-building is located in a new shopping-centre in Ireland's capital Dublin. (FRW)

USA

THE MIGHTY BENNETT

Almost 25 years ago Bobby Bennett started his deejay career on WOL-AM in Washington as one of the original Soul Brothers. Bobby is back on the Washington airwaves presenting a px with old soul hits each Saturday. He's assisted by another radio veteran, 'Uncle Jay' Johnson. The show is aired each Saturday starting at 16.00 on WPFW-FM, a non-commercial station (FRW).

WASHINGTON

No less than 11 of Washington most important radio stations have been sold in 1996. This is mainly a result of new legislation making it possible that more stations can be bought by the big companies (FRW)

WRNR

79 year old Jake Einstein- rock 'n' roll

expert- has started a new radio station last October. WRNR-FM (RNR stands for rock 'n'roll!) is the name of the station. Einstein also owns a number of other stations. In contrast with most other Washington-based music stations, WRNR won't be using computers. Deejays will be in charge of the musical choice. WRNR 103.1 is located in Annapolis, a Washington suburb. Their musical output consists of much progressive rock and oldies. No Pearl Jam or Guns 'n'Roses but Led Zeppelin, CSNY or Joan Baez! (FRW)

ANTENNA TOWER

A 500 metre tall antenna tower recently collapsed in Cedar Hill, Texas. Three people were killed, a heavy transformer burnt out and as a result a wide area was hit by a power failure. The 3 men were carrying out work on the tower, installing new antennas. The tower was used by several radio and TV-stations (FRW)

THE NETHERLANDS

Next year the Dutch International radio station Radio Netherlands World Service will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Of course this milestone will be paid attention to in the station's programme. Under the title "From the Wireless to the World Wide Web" Pete Meyers and Luc Lucas will be regularly playing recordings from the station's huge tape archives.

GENERAL

For already one year satellite enthusiasts can be downloading an excellent list on the Internet. On this list a very up-to-date survey of all satellites and its frequencies/ transponders, the radio & TV stations and technical data. The SATCO DX pages were visited no less than 50,000 times in the past 12 months and the average number of people consulting these popular pages on a daily basis is 500. The strength of the SATCO DX pages is that they are updated from day to day. World wide no less than 100 monitors/contributors keep an eye on ever-changing the world of satellite, changes are immediately reported to the HQ in Helsingborg, Sweden. The website's address is:

< <http://www.satcodx.com/maillist.html> >

FRS-Holland will be on the airwaves December 22nd & 29th with a 70s and 80s special.



BETTER PROSPECTS FOR THE SHORT WAVE HOBBY PIRATES?

PROPAGATION FORECAST

Looking at the current state of affairs, there is every appearance that the minimum sunspot activity has passed in the past few months. And that implies a new sunspot cycle - number 23 - has started. The Australian research institute IPS Radio & Space Services has already hazarded a prophecy for the activity maximum of this new cycle.

According to the models compiled by IPS Radio & Space Services the maximum of the cycle, with an average sunspot number of 160, would be reached in the year 2000. With that the maximum of cycle number 23 would not be up to the highest registered maximum so far, namely that of

number 19 in 1958 having an average of approx. 200. But a second position in the all time top 10 is a real possibility. In short: the coming years will be interesting as far as SW is concerned! Although as from now on activity will slowly increase, we won't notice that much improvement in the very short term. Nevertheless conditions on SW will noticeably improve. During the summer the atmosphere at the Northern Hemisphere is getting warmer and consequently expand. The density of the atmosphere will decrease, so does the number of ions. As a result high frequency radio signals are not being reflected by the ionosphere limiting the DX-possibili-

ties on SW. Now that we have this relatively unfavourable summer period is left behind, conditions on SW will significantly improve. During the autumn the sun is almost straight above the equator. The Northern and Southern Hemisphere are equally sunlit. For the ionosphere it means a certain symmetry comes into being: areas shall be almost the same for the Northern and Southern Hemisphere which means that world wide communications via SW are possible.



FUTURE SW PIRATES ON 48 and 76 MB ENDANGERED BY LEGAL STATIONS??

Sunday September 15th the ABCDX Report revealed that the BBC World Service has been forced to leave the well-known frequency of 15070 kHz. Apparently the decision has been taken not long ago since the frequency is still mentioned in the October issue of "BBC On Air" in which Simon Spanswich writes that (quote him...) "key frequencies like 9410 and 15070 in Europe will still be on the Air" at the end of October. Well, 15070 won't. Now - why does the BBC have to leave this frequency. ABC's SH Nielsen feels very sad to say why - because it's the Danish National Telecom Agency from Copenhagen - Denmark that have made this happen. And the story becomes even more incredible: Now here's the complete story. It all begins with Radio Station EDXC 95. When this station was to have frequencies cleared for the operation in the spring of 1995 a couple of the frequencies asked for were within the maritime frequency bands. Radio Station EDXC 95 was arguing for the use of these frequencies by saying that frequencies outside the bands were used by virtually everyone in Europe. "Everybody's using freq's outside the bands - so we want to do

the same", was the argument of SH Nielsen for Radio Station EDXC 95. The Danish Telecom Agency didn't allocate any frequency outside the band to Radio Station EDXC 95 - but they became aware of the fact that European stations are using frequencies outside the bands. Till last year they didn't know anything about BBC using 15070 kHz. And so the Danish Telecom Agency raised this point at an international frequency meeting in Bulgaria in December last year. The Danish Telecom Agency kept on pushing - and pushing - 'till the meeting agreed to urge the National Telecom Agencies of all the CEPT countries not to let radio stations use frequencies in the exclusive maritime, OR and air-bands. Among the effected frequency-spectrums are: 3900-5950, 6200-6525, 15010-15200 and 17900-17970 kHz. The National Danish Telecom Agency - and now the entire CEPT group - have made it clear that any HF broadcasting in these frequency spectrums will not be accepted any more. 15070 kHz is of course in the air-band 15010-15100 KHz - and so the British Telecom Agency has told BBC to give up the use of this frequency, and so they will by October 27th.

The fact that the BBC has been using this frequency for probably more than 50 years - apparently without any problems - is of no importance for the Telecom-people. The decision to stop broadcasting in the exclusive-bands will only be effective in the 43 countries in Europe being members of CEPT. Countries like Saudi Arabia, India, Lebanon, Vietnam, Syria, Iran and Costa Rica are of course not members of the CEPT. So they are expected to continue the use of these frequencies. It should be interesting to see WHICH non-European station will rush to 15070 kHz on October 27th and take over on the most clear channels in the entire frequency spectrum. It could be speculated that the raids on the hobby-pirates may see an increase, since these stations are frequent users of frequencies in the exclusive maritime bands - such as the 3900-3950 kHz spectrum and especially of course the area above 6200 kHz. Now - for the BBC World Service, they have had to find two new frequencies to replace 15070 kHz. At present BBC is running three transmitters on 15070 kHz beaming the signals to south, south-east and in a easterly direction. As of October 27th the BBC will be using 15485 kHz



towards south and the frequency of 15575 kHz towards east and south-east. This latter frequency is at present in use from Cyprus. Here BBC will be changing to 15565 kHz. Trans World Radio has bought two hours of airtime in Poland on 1503 kHz. The station was expected to commence broadcasting from here on

March 1st 1996, then the start was postponed till October, but the latest news is that a start is not expected till January 1st 1997 at the earliest. The Polish authorities have now sent a letter to the Cultural departments of the governments in Scandinavia asking whether or not they have any comments on the proposed ser-

vices of Trans World Radio. TWR is expecting to introduce 1/2 hour a day Monday-Friday from Norea Radio in Norwegian, Swedish and Finnish. It is not known yet what there will be in the remaining air-time.

MADE in HOLLAND

By Chris Latiers



MONDAY SEPTEMBER 16th power of the Radio 538 is lifted from 32 to 50 kW. For this purpose a new transmitter has been installed. Programmedirector Erik de Zwart officially switches on the transmitter at noon. Radio 538 claims the station now is reaching 55% of Dutch territory, compared with some 40% until today. The Nozema, the company responsible for transmitters on Dutch soil has agreed to bring into operation a more powerful transmitter under the threat of a possible claim from 538, because the former transmitter was producing less output than agreed.

New listening figures become public on **MONDAY SEPTEMBER 23rd**. Although these figures don't include all stations, they give us a very good look at the actual developments. Just when we became convinced the marketshares of the various stations had stabilized, with regard to the auction of frequencies next year, the commercial broadcasters appear to have gained a lot in August. The commercial stations now have a share of 40,5% together, while the national public stations reach 32,5%. Please keep in mind the commercial stations can only be received on cable in large parts of the country. Especially the non stop station Sky is doing very well with a share of 11,9%, which means the station is only 1,3% behind Radio 3. The gap between these stations has been 14,7% last year. The Radio 3 management immediately responds to this 'dramatic' situation. The programming of the station will be altered in order to stay marketleader for the 13 - 34 year categorie and to get a better image for the people above 35. I'm very curious how they want to integrate these two rather conflicting

goals! A first step towards an increase of the marketshare will be the appointment of a music director, who will plan all the music played on Radio 3.

Radio 538 NetNewz, the station's electronic bulletin, mentions the possibility of a delay for the forthcoming auction of terrestrial frequencies, next Spring. **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27th** it becomes clear a vast majority in Parliament is against a real open auction. The Members all have different reasons for their attitude.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 1st had been announced as the official launching date of the newest Dutch commercial radio station, Arrow Classic Rock. However, already during the last week of September the station could be heard on some cable networks in the country. Remarkable is the fact there hasn't been any coverage in Dutch media about the start of this station. The station claims it can be received in 500,000 households at this moment.

The station is aiming at people between 20 and 45 year of age, who like to listen to rockmusic from the past. Originally the station had the 33-45 as its target group. However, it appeared younger people also like yesterday's rockmusic. "Rockmusic" doesn't mean hard rock or heavy metal. It's the more accessible classic rock by groups like the Stones, Led Zeppelin, Eagles, Cream and Dutch groups like Golden Earring, Focus and Supersister. The station is playing non-stop music. Information about the music soon can be found on the Internet. By means of this site listeners can influence the programming of the station. The management of the station hopes to get a 3% marketshare in the long term. And yet another station would start today: Talkradi-

o. However, the station didn't manage to get all problems sorted out in time. The programme schedule isn't completed yet and also some employees still have to be attracted. Now January 1st 1997 is mentioned as the first day of transmissions. Until then the programmes of sister station Jazz radio will be broadcasted via the MW 1395 frequency. Some commercial stations are the opinion Jazz Radio has got a temporarily- frequency via an illegal way. They consider possible action against this situation.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 17th yet another radiostation announces its coming birth: Country FM hopes to launch January 1st 1997. This cable station will be broadcasting non stop country music 24 hours a day. At the beginning the station will be received in the western part of the country only. During 1997 CFM hopes to be distributed via all cable systems in Holland. Regarding the fact some of the current stations (like London, New Dance Radio and Kikker Radio) aren't received in large parts of the country we think 100% coverage of Dutch households will prove to be a fairy tale. Moreover: the management of CFM is targeting at a 4% marketshare. For everybody who takes a regular look at the figures we publish each time, it will be clear such a share is very hard to get. CFM states country music isn't played often on Dutch radio, while this kind of music is very popular in the States. Adding to that: last year a country station started broadcasting in the UK. We hope the people behind CFM don't have too high expectations...

The battle of the stations takes a very surprisingly turn **TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19th**. The public pop station Radio 3 an-



nounces the possible split-up of the station into three separate ones. A dance format and a progressive format are taken into consideration. The third station is still subject of discussions. In this way Radio 3 wants to take part in the auction of frequencies next year. Maybe it's more honest to state Radio 3 hopes to counteract the commercial stations. It may be clear that plans like these only emerge from a station in great danger.

Next day, **WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 20th**, we see/hear a very well-known voice back on the radio: Leo van der Goot presents the evening slot on Radio 10 Gold. In earlier days he has been working for Radio Northsee and the public Veronica and V.A.R.A. Leo is running a media production company nowadays. It's a great pleasure listening to him and it gives Radio 10 Gold a very welcome variety.

It's some time ago we reported about a forthcoming Dutch long wave project. **FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22nd** more news about this station reaches us. The proposed new Europe-wide long-wave station, Delta Radio, has run into trouble. There is some not unexpected opposition to its proposals to build four huge radio masts for its planned 1 megawatt transmitter. The station, which has permission to use 171Khz long-wave, say that they will be heard throughout the whole of Europe and much further - eastwards well into Russia, and west perhaps as far as the East coast of America. They'll have to build the masts first though, which will not be easy, either technically, financially, or politically. A newspaper article describes how Delta has fallen foul of the Dutch equivalent of the Forestry Commission, who are mounting a big political campaign to defeat a planning application to build the masts at Kootwijk in the Netherlands. Kootwijk is well-known as a short wave transmission site which local residents fought to have closed down. It is now the main technical base of the Dutch PTT masts erection team. Local residents and politicians are also involved in the campaign to stop the development. The owners of Delta are currently marketing the project via a Merchant Bank and are currently asking for 96 million Dutch Guilders for the project 'as is'. (Thanks to Line1)

You may recall that 1395Khz, formerly Veronica Newsradio, has been in limbo for some months following the abrupt closure of that station, which caused something of an outcry at the time. Non-stop music was replaced by a jazzy/easy listening format for the time being, before it was decided that a new station, Talk Radio 1395, was

to be the final occupant. Talk Radio starts on New Years day, with a format of - you guessed it - talk shows, mainly 4 hours each. A "fresh and exciting" team is currently being assembled to front the new venture, while behind the scenes veteran broadcaster Willem de Ridder has been named Station Manager.

Currently working in TV, Willem has lots of experience in radio, and is regarded as a safe pair of hands to launch the new station. Talk radio 1395 will not be carried by most of the cable operations in Holland, as it's transmitter is powerful enough to give good coverage of most of the country - indeed it can be clearly heard over some of the UK too. (Thanks to Hans Knot)

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 26th it's announced News International, owner of non stop soft pop station Sky Radio, will take a 50% share in the loss-making Dutch arm of Classic FM. The station will stay on the air as part of the Sky operation. Classic FM Holland has never been as successful as it's English counterpart, and has never even looked like breaking even. Sources close to the station suggest that Sky will trim the fat off the organisation, merging it with existing radio services operating at Naarden in Holland. The deal means that News International will take over the running of Classic FM Holland from January 1st. One immediate casualty of the merger will be newsroom staff - the new Classic Holland will take news from the Sky network on a "rip n' read" basis - i.e. no journalists.

As a result of this operation Rupert Murdoch's News International owns 3 out of 4 commercial FM frequencies in Holland. Sky, Radio 538 and Classic FM now belong to the same "family". Radio Noordzee Nationaal, operator of the fourth FM frequency, is fearing this "majority", because News International has got a very strong position towards the advertising market. In this position it will be possible to "dictate" tariffs. Moreover Newsradio Int. has an increasing chance of getting one or even more frequencies at the auction next Spring. Officially this auction has to be held before April 1st. However, more and more sources state it will be postponed because of a delay in the procedures.

Meanwhile, Dutch public broadcaster Radio 3 is licking its wounds, having been knocked off the top spot in the ratings that it has occupied since Radio Veronica closed down in 1974. Radio 3, which is a pop network, has been overtaken by - Sky Radio - remarkable when you consider the fact that in many areas Sky is only available on cable satellite.

The latest listening figures show that Sky has been reaching slightly more people

compared with Radio 3 during the month of October: 25,3% against 25,2% on a weekly basis. When we look at the average marketshare we see that Radio 3 still is ahead of Sky. Off all people listening to radio on average 14,6% is listening to R3, while 12,5% tunes in to Sky Radio.

MARKETSHARES DUTCH RADIO STATIONS OCTOBER 1996

Radio 1	8,5 (-0,7)
Radio 2	7,6 (-1,0)
Radio 3	14,6 (+0,6)
Radio 4	1,7 (+0,1)
Radio 5	1,0 (+0,1)
Radio 10 Gold	8,3 (-0,6)
Sky Radio 100.7	12,5 (+2,2)
Radio 538	7,7 (+0,4)
Kink FM	0,3 (-0,3)
Hitr. Veronica	2,2 (-1,1)
RNN	8,3 (+0,3)
Love Radio	0,9 (-0,5)
Classic FM	0,8 (+0,2)
Jazz Radio	0,4 (-0,1)
Reg. stations	18,1 (+1,6)
Others	7,0 (-1,1)

It's a sad day for radio enthusiasts in Holland **THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28th**. The Holland Media Group decides to withdraw from the station. It is well known that the station is doing very bad, financially spoken. Hardly any listeners and commercials have resulted into the decision to put no more money into the station. Luckily HMG daughter Veronica succeeds in "taking over" the station. However, as a result all deejays have to leave the station. From tomorrow afternoon, 17.00h, onwards Kink FM will be a non stop station. Veronica's only intention is trying to get hold of a frequency for Kink FM next Spring.

Willem van Kooten, co-owner of Arrow Classic Rock, has shown interest in taking over Kink's cable frequencies. Maybe this possible grown access to the cable has forced Veronica to get hold of Kink.

Finally, on **SATURDAY DECEMBER 7th** another radio personality makes a return to the airwaves: Kas van Iersel (Collins) joins Hitradio Veronica to present the Saturday afternoon 12-15 slot. Kas has been working for the Voice of Peace, AVRO and Radio 10 Gold. Moreover he is presenting a daily game show on RTL TV.

SOUNDS FROM OFFSHORE

RADIO CAROLINE

RSL

Since November 17th and ending on December 14th, Radio Caroline is to be heard in Bristol on FM 106.6 MHz via a RSL. Broadcasts are not coming from the MV Ross Revenge but from a floating nightclub, the MV Thekla. The Ross is not allowed to move from its current anchorage in Chatham to a complete new anchorage outside Chatham, because the authorities refused permission until all necessary repairs have been carried out (see also FRSGDX 141 Offshore News Section!). The ship has been moved a little bit and is being moored very close to the new BBC Radio Kent studio-building. Three men are aboard and do some light maintenance. Peter Moore hopes to raise money for the CSG, the Caroline Support Group.

During the X-Mas period the station the station hopes to be on air on SW from Ireland using a new 1 kW transmitter. A 500 pound donation will be used to move the new tx to the transmitting site.

Caroline is offered 5 hours free airtime each Wednesday morning on a subcarrier on the Eutelsat II-F3 16 degrees east. The only costs Caroline must pay is a 3500 pounds fees annually for music rights.

FIVE YEARS AGO

Wednesday November 20th it was already 5 years ago that the Ross Revenge run aground on the Goodwin Sands. That was the end of an 8 year period of Offshore Radio in Western Europe (Aug. 1983 Caroline returned). The Ross was towed to Dover. The ship was used putting Caroline on air via several RSLs in the past few years. The current RSL is the only one not coming from the Ross Revenge!

INTERNET SITE

Within a limited (?) period, Caroline will be having its own homepage on the Internet. Johnny Walker is the one who's in charge of this job. The pages will be containing historical and updated info and it is planned to offer people the possibility of ordering Caroline souvenirs on-line. The correct address will be: < 106352.55@compuserve.com >.

NEW VIDEO

Since late November a brandnew Caroline

video is available from OEM. The video is entitled "Caroline into the Eighties part 2" featuring the station's history in the late 80s. Video pictures, photos & programme extracts are the main "ingredients" of this new product. The August 1989 raid is included, also Radio 819 and World Mission Radio. The video ends with the Ross Revenge running aground on the Goodwin Sands sandbank. Bill Rollins is doing the voice-overs. The costs of this video is £ 17.99 via OEM, Box 1514, London W7 2LL in the UK.

You may also order via SMC, Box 53121, 1007 RC Amsterdam in Holland. Cost: 60 Dutch guilders.

NEW RADIO CAROLINE FROM IRELAND ?

Mid November we are informed that a new AM station is planned in Ireland and former Caroline jocks will be part of the presentation team. An Email was sent to several organisations and reads as follows: *"Several old rogues from the good ship caroline are planning the return the return of Radio Caroline from a new transmitter station on land. The chosen location is just outside Greenore, the port where Carolines first tow ships- The MV Caroline and the MV Mi Amigo- were fitted out in the early 1960s. The port was once owned by British Railways and later by the father of Caroline founder Ronan O'Rahilly. caroline will use an AM tx on 549 which was scheduled to be operated by United Christian Broadcasters, as well as a low powered SW tx. They hope to reach Belfast, a market where at least one station is currently in difficulties following the jailing of its owner- the station manager was summarily fired three weeks ago. Caroline deejays have been visiting advertisers since Friday (=early November-FRSGDX) last to sign up sponsors of the broadcasts, which will comprise mainly adult-oriented rock music. Although the station isn't licensed (the licensing body would be the IRTC in Dublin) they claim that the current Irish licensing situation means they can't be closed for illegal broadcasting, and they also claim the support of a paramilitary nationalist group in Drogheda."*

According to certain British sources we must take this story with a very large pinch of salt. It seems a 10 kW AM tx is

existing in the location as described in the foregoing email but this unit is in a very poor condition. Ireland is littered with AM txs dating from the pirate period in the 80s but most equipment hasn't been used since the new Irish laws came into force making it impossible to continue with illegal broadcasts. Caroline man Peter Moore claimed he had no knowledge of the plans and no connection with the people behind the plan. The backing of a paramilitary group is a strange move as this could invite the Irish authorities to take immediate action against the station! Although the Irish authorities are leaving pirates alone, it's not true that they don't have the powers to undertake action! Some 20 to 30 pirate stations are active in the Dublin area and no action is undertaken as long as they steer clear of trouble. It's a pity we cannot mention any names of deejays involved. Any tests haven't been taken place yet not to wonder when looking at the actual condition of the tx!

One week after the first reports regarding the new Caroline, we are informed that 10 kW AM 549 tests will be commenced within a limited period. SW trms will be postponed for the time being. Peter Moore is not happy with the situation, he expects confusion because he's also trying to start Caroline trms on SW from Ireland... Fact is that the Caroline Support Group owns the right to the Trademark "Caroline" but only for the UK, not for Ireland.

NEW OFFSHORE PROJECTS

Since a few months all kinds of rumours are circulating about upcoming new projects. These rumours have persisted in the past 6 weeks or so and although we only believe it when we hear it with our very own ears, it seems there must be some truth in these stories.

In fact no less than three project are mentioned by various sources. Perhaps a bit confusing, perhaps the next explanation will clear up things for you. The first is the Al Weiner/Scott Becker project, the ship is called MV Electra. Then there is the MV Moon, a ship which was already fitted out in 1987 in Port Everglades. This project is described as "very big, and fitted out with no expense spared". The third project is shrouded in mystery, very little is known about the ship etc. FRSGDX has collected the latest updates about these possible offshore ventures and "goes



through the points once again." If we may believe all the reports we received in the past months, two projects are already in an advanced state. We thank Hans Knot, Radio World, OEM and line1 (Internet) for providing us with useful information, to be used in the following stories.

MV ELECTRA

It seems this project has attracted most attention from the media. Several major stories have appeared in radio-related magazines. In the September 18th international edition of the US magazine Radio World, Alan Haber wrote a comprehensive article entitled "Radio 'Voice' for Seas Set Sail". The article contained information which was already published in FRSQDX, however, some info was new to us. Here's a summary of the Radio World feature:

"The Electra is designed to bring listeners old-time radio shows and programmes dealing with environmental issues that affect the oceans and peoples of the world. Al Weiner's last two floating radio ships- the Sarah from which Radio New York Int. broadcasts emanated, and the MV Fury- ended in woe. The Sarah was seized and Weiner was arrested for alleged violation of international law. The Fury was raided by the FCC for alleged illegal trms. The memories of the US government calling on Weiner's ventures with the Sarah and Fury loom heavily in the background, but Weiner is not letting them get in the way of the Electra's purpose. He says that everything is being done to adhere to FCC rules and regulations. The Electra is well on its way to fulfilling Becker and Weiner's goals. Although the sources of programming are not yet defined, Becker is negotiating with several organizations and concerns around the world for this purpose. The ship is in "real good shape...almost like a mini-submarine," said Becker. "We want the general public to know exactly where we are going on this one," said Becker. "The Electra is not going to be a bunch of radical, crazy kids up there playing rock 'n' roll music. We are a free-form radio broadcaster. I do not want us to sound like a pirate radio station." An interactive site on the WWW is planned, and Becker has sent press releases to the FCC and media. The MV Electra will not sail under the American flag. Becker said an inde-

pendent laboratory will be retained to monitor the ship and to report any RF emissions coming off it. This, he said is "the way we are going to get around the FCC this time." Weiner said that while the Electra is being outfitted, he is "not even going to allow a microwave oven" on the ship. "The only electromagnetic radiation coming from the boat will be from the incandescent lights," said Weiner. The plan is for the Electra to broadcast to undetermined target areas outside of the US. However, Becker did concede that signals could reach the US from the ship's omnidirectional antenna as a result of atmospheric conditions. Both Becker and Weiner are excited about the future of the ship. "I think it's fantastic," said Weiner. "I think it's wonderful for the world." Becker: "As far as the organizers, Allan and myself and Lightwave Mission Broadcasting, we are neither left nor right. What we want to do is attract programmers from all walks of life."

Also the Billboard magazine, dated August 17th 1996, carried an interesting story under the title "Broadcasting Pirates Set Sail Aboard Radio Ship Electra".

Interesting is the fact that broadcast time will be available for lease to interested parties, with special rates for free radio broadcasters. One of the first blocks of programming will be from Bill Bragg's Yesterday USA Superstation "Old Time radio Shows" network. One of the SW txs will be transmitting 24 hours a day pxs of this network. At present time the old time radio shows are radiated across North, South and Central America via transponders on the Telstar and Galaxy satellites and via cable networks in the US. In addition the shows are being spread world wide via the Internet, 24 hours a day at < <http://www.yesterdayusa.com> >. Old Time Radio Shows from the Golden Days of radio, are making a come-back Worldwide among radio fans. The programming is a service of public domain old-time radio shows and vintage music provided by the National Museum of Communications, a non-profit broadcast museum based in Dallas.

In mid October we were informed that the MV Electra- an ocean going tug- recently passed its sea trials with flying colors. The maximum speed of the ship is 12 knots but its actual cruising speed is 7 knots which it can do with very little effort. Because the ship will be going to an ocean location (still secret) it was decided to dry

dock the boat to repair any soft spots in the hull (for maneuverability) and to give her a paint job. This will cost about \$ 25,000 according to Weiner. The txs have not been installed on the ship, but should be ready early December. Allan plans to run on short wave only, with two frequencies at once with a minimum power of 10 kW. No medium wave is planned. Weiner feels that the 10 kW rigs might equal the output of a 100 kW land based rig because the ocean will be used as a giant reflector. The current location of the ship and its future ocean destination are still being kept secret for security reasons. Allan now predicts the launching of the ship will now occur early January 1997, depending on the weather conditions. Asking Paul Rusling about the MV Electra project he answered he thinks the project is not ready to sail. The latter may be true because late November the news reached us that the launching of the ship is delayed until Spring because of a delay in receiving investment money... Isn't that the same old story?? Yes, it is!! Hans Knot has already seen photos of the MV Electra, so there really is a ship out there.

Allan Weiner runs a station in Monticelli, Maine. The 5 kW tx is used for a rock 'n' roll format.

For more info you can contact Scott Becker via Lightwave Mission Broadcasting, Kiowa, Kansas 67070, USA. On the Internet you can visit these two websites:

< <http://www.tv36.com/buffalo.htm> > and
< <http://www.testerdaysusa.com> >

MV MOON

The ship was owned by a US born Bahamian resident. Ship and equipment was mothballed. In May the ship was bought by a well known (?) European and the ship was sailed to USA, then Canada for some extra housekeeping work and some changes to the transmitter by the manufacturers. Something which wasn't known in September is the fact that this is a political engaged project. The new owner(s) purchased the ship for some 2 million pounds from its previous owners and are planning to use the vessel for political propaganda in the run up to the forthcoming UK general election although this is denied by a spokesman claiming the ships use in the British General Elections is by no means certain. British authorities (staff from a UK embassy) seem to keep an eye on the project and ever since no more work has



been carried out on the ship. A number of familiar British offshore persons have already declared not to have been involved with this mysterious radio project. The report about a possible test from the MV Moon appeared to be untrue. Two 50 kW txs are on board which can be combined, blasting out 100 kW! The fact that this project might have something to do with politics has created problems for a possible third secret project. Remains the question what will happen with the ship when it's not used for political purposes. A well-known British person has already talked to the current backers in London discussing the future of the ship when the ship is no longer required to be used for political propaganda.

THIRD PROJECT

If we may believe some British sources, a US spokesman for this project has said that the political aims of the Moon project has caused them problems. He revealed that they first want to wait and see which way the wind blows. American backers have become concerned that the Moon project is allegedly involved with a political organisation. Their ship should be heading for Europe from a US port last October but is now anchored elsewhere awaiting future developments. A spokeswoman for the organisation said "We are legally watertight. We intend to operate a music led commercial radio operation, which will provide entertainment. If these other people think they are going to use the airwaves for their own political ends, we must wait. We cannot afford to see several years hard work by many people, not to mention our investment financially, be lost should someone decide to put an end to matters before we start. So it has been decided not to order our crew to sail the ship towards Europe at this time. We will hold back any decision on when to sail until a date during March. By this time it should be known whether this political radio project is going to launch. Agreement has been reached with the sponsor and the necessary arrangements are being made to crew the ship safely in the meantime. There is frustration here in xxxxxx that this is having to be our course of action, but we want to have a launch to be proud of. Our arrival in Britain alongside some political guys would only mean the press looking at them. We want front pages! This is not calling off the sta-

tion. We are only delaying the start. Think of the crew - they'll love the news that they won't be having to put up with those winter storms..."

The group is allegedly working on a 300-foot ex freighter, which is fitted with new AC generating equipment and a 50Kw medium-wave transmitter, but as yet no masts. This ship is said to be in Florida, with the project being controlled from a New York office. Conflicting reports suggest that the ship will come to Europe to broadcast, or that it will stay on the other side of the Atlantic.

Fact is that any project broadcasting off the English coast is subject to enhanced government powers against such stations under current broadcasting legislation, powers which were given to the DTI in order to see off Radio Caroline in 1990.

As always some most of these stories are far-fetched but we think there must be at least some truth in these stories.

ISRAEL

ARUTZ SHEVA

This station broadcasts off the Israeli coast and can be heard on AM 1143 and FM 105.2 with their main (general) programming. Broadcasts on FM 97.3 are mainly in Russian aimed at Russian-Jewish immigrants. Religious programming is to be heard on AM 711 & FM 98.7.

Arutz 7 has been under attack by the press quite recently. Allegations were made that the station has made illegal broadcasts from landbased sites in Israel. The Ma'ariv newspaper ran a special weekend report stating that Channel 7 has broadcasted from "secret" outposts strategically located in several areas nationwide. Ma'ariv also reports the photos and the story were submitted to the Ministry of Communications officials in September but no action has been taken. The Ministry of Communications refused comment on the matter. Arutz Sheva has its own homepage on the WWW:

<http://www.arutz7.jer1.co.il/index.html>.

CHANNEL 2000

Some infos about this 1996 project. It seems that a number of rich Israeli families are financially backing the project. The King David is anchored 6 to 8 km off Tel Aviv covering 60% to 70% of the Israeli listeners. The output consists of religious pxs. The latest news is that the station has ceased its FM broadcasts be-

cause the weak signal was hardly receivable inland. Channel 2000 was "sandwiched" by two much stronger stations. The current policy is aimed at starting AM trms but that depends on acquiring a number of vital parts for the transmitters. These parts are hardly obtainable. The second-hand txs were bought in the 1995 Summer in Germany.

For any questions or a detailed px-schedule write to: Channel 2000, Eli Weizman, 13 Olei Zion St, Jaffa 68025, Israel, Tel. +972 3 683 1494, FAX +972 3 682 4588, or SUPERCOR, Eli Miss, 36 Beit Haesel St, Jaffa, Israel, Tel. +972 3 683 2242, FAX +972 3 682 4588. We cannot guarantee success at the above addresses (thanks to Radio News)

DROIT DE PAROLE

According to P.A. Rusling the former Radio Brod radio vessel is still anchored in the Bari harbour (east coast of Italy).

ANNUAL DUTCH RADIO DAY IN HAARLEM

This great radio event is planned to take place on Saturday May 10th at the *Stadscafe, Dedempte Oude Gracht in Haarlem*. This new location is only 200 metres away from the old location (Hotel De Raekse). Apart from the video presentations, there will be several organizations selling radio merchandise. The organisation- Freewave & SMC- hope that Tommy Rivers (ex-Laser 558), Bob le Roi (ex-Radio City, nowadays director of Medway FM) and Ferry Maat (ex-RNI, Radio 10, TROS, Radio 538 and nowadays on NCRV Radio- he's also running his own jingle company) will come to Haarlem. In addition some former Norderney (the Veronica ship) crew member and newsreader Cees Man in 't Veld is invited. The day will start at 11.00 CET, the end is at approx. 17.00 CET. For info call Int. access code followed by 31-20-6621141.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

☐ **Jeroen Soer** (Woelwater) who did a short spell on the MV Mi Amigo working on the Dutch Caroline service late 1979/early 1980, has left the Arcade Group since November to search for another angle to his career. Since 1986 he was



managing-director of Radio 10 Gold (in those days Radio 10). He was one of the key-figures behind the great success of the station (FRW/OEM 106).

❑ Former Mi Amigo boss **Sylvain Tack** (remember his famous Suzie Waffles) has been sentenced because of illegally practising medicine and put unregistered medicines on the market. Once a pirate, always a pirate... Poor Sylvain must pay a heavy BFr. 400,000.- fine (DM 20,000). All medicines were confiscated (value: BFr. 26,7 million!).

❑ **Johnny Lewis**, former Vop, Caroline & Laser jock, has lost his job as programme-controller at Invicta Radio. He also lost his morning show and can now be heard on weekdays 20.00-24.00 on Invicta Gold's 603 kHz with a phone-in show. **Nigel Harris** (Stuart Russell on Caroline) can be heard between midnight and 06.00 on Invicta Gold.

❑ Thursday Nov. 7th the Radio Authority announced that new broadcasting licence for Rochester and surrounding areas is

allocated to Medway FM. One of the people who will be heard on this new station is former Radio City and Invicta man **Bob LeRoi**. And former Radio Atlantis engineer **Eddie Austin** hopes to join the Medway staff. Rumours are circulating that Medway FM has offered a job to Invicta jocks **Nigel Harris** & **Johnny Lewis**. Former Caroline and SRE jock **Roger Day** had also opted for the licence.

❑ Good old **Charlie Wolf** is still working in the UK. It's already more than 10 years ago Charlie left Laser 558. Charlie is active on GWR and broke his collarbone when he was "opening" a door. Too much enthusiasm Charlie...! He cannot work for a few weeks.

❑ **Ian Mack** was a jock in the twilight of Caroline's offshore period. Mon Nov. 25th he took the decision to continue his deejay career in ...Australia! Ian has been working on several ILR-stations.

❑ In the past few years former Laser 558 & Atlantic 252 man **John Catlett** (the one

behind the scenes) was active as media-consultant in Russia, Austria and Luxembourg. Recently he returned to the UK where's he's working for MetroMedia Int., a company which is occupying with the media in countries which used to be part of the Eastern Bloc.

❑ **Andy Archer** has stopped working for BBC Radio Norfolk. Andy wanted a few months' radio silence. **Bob Stewart** is now on Radio 1521 and **Dave Windsor** is now presenting the afternoon drive on KFM

BITS AND PIECES

Silver Crystal Radio Newline is a new premium rated phone service in the UK on 0336-404505. The line is giving UK and European radio industry news. The man behind this operation is Paul Rusling, he's also the voice you hear on the line (OEM 106).

Joop Ter Zee's ALTERNATIVE (fucking) THOUGHTS

Howdie ** Sure hope this mag receives ya before Xmas..
** Whot elsesould ya do between da French(fucking) fries and da Irish Coffee.. ** But then again, most swfans are loners & losers and they'll just Eat At Home anyway ** Remind me to play that one at the upcoming, to record, broadcast ** Search under M from McCartney ** Yes ! folks, it(was) 70's on the 22nd ** And 80's on da 29th ** I had this creative argument with the daddy of them all ** Why make a ball 'n chain while there so much good stuff to play while we have not enough transmissions do do it all ** Yes, here we go again: a, so called GOOD VOORNEMEN ** I'll start my own service ** Everybody who want's a QSL sucks.. ** It's the music that matters ** I can see it right now... ** A station and a Mag, that's into the future ** No ball 'n chain from the past ** Who's Ronan anyway ??? ** Before you know it, Pearl Jam sucks ** This Veder dude needs lipo-suction ** The fast, to much at once... ** They do-no how to handle it all.. ** Take this Branson chap ** Back into records again uh ?? ** Doesn't that suck ??

** No, not in 'our' eyes, because he once contracted The Simple Dudes... ** And where are they now ?? ** I'm so sick 'n tired of people chasing whot once was ** Makes me really mad at the end of da year ** Take this Jackson dude.. ** Ok, he rebuilt his face ** Didn't work out all that well.. ** But he did it.. ** Did da message ?? ** If ya keep on looking at the past, ya don't need no future ** Unless ya learned from the past ** And U all thought this would be an easy ending of this (fucking) column, uh ?? ** No way, dudes... ** I'm gonna eat pigeon soup on fucking first Xmas day and shoot (klei) seagulls on da second ** That'll give a relief... ** Cool ** And then again, it's time to switch from Internet provider ** These TIP dudes suck like hell ** We'll announce the new site in time ** Relieve for all those dudes who wrote that 'our' site was slow ** They were *right t*** Here again is da *positive* news ** Check in on IRC while we're broadcasting, newsgroup SW or FRSH *** Livechatting on da net ** Next year... See ya then.... bye **

From all FRS-Holland staff and FRS Goes DX contributors a very Merry X-MAS and a happy 199788

ARTIOM REPORTS..

Well, Pirate life is going on inspite of winter and coming Christmas time... And here is another report from Russia.. It happened, that during more than one month I was disconnected from our wonderful Free Radio World, because some lamps in my "auldie" from 1968 were dead at all. Sad incident, you know, especially, if finding out from Internet about interesting night tests or special anniversary broadcasts. Anyway, early December I returned to the post and met on 76 some usual inhabitants: Radio Korak, Grensjager and RFL, which is more difficult to hear on 3945 kHz by now, as a Chinese official station produces a strong signal on the same frequency. It happens every season: when winter comes China appears everywhere with quite a good strength here. So 3945 isn't an exception. Looking on Europirates from Moscow, I must mention a mystery sound heard here on 3925 kHz (Dec., 1st, 02:45-03:00 UTC). It was a show dedicated to the Beatles presented in Swedish. The station didn't mention any names or addresses. It seems, that Russian Pirate activity of the Summer months changed and looks like winter sleep at this moment. After hurricane damage of the aerial system early in September Russian Radio from the North Caucasus went off the air and hasn't returned until this time. But another station from the South part of the country's going to make transmitters hot during the Michel Ravigneux Contest. I certainly mean Radio 75 calling itself "The Voice of the Mojaheds of the Laptev Sea". From Rostov-on-Don, Igor Elizarov informed me about the station's official schedule. According to the application sent to Dario Monferini the Radio 75 OP will be twice on 6290 kHz SSB during the Contest time: Dec., 21st-1996 he is planning to switch on at 19:00 UTC for Europe, then on Jan., 5th-1997 at 01:00 UTC trying to reach DX. Address for reports stays like: P.O.Box 9, Sevastopol 335001. Ukraine. Perhaps, permanent readers of FRSGDX remember, that the person behind the project is famous with his black glory. It was him, who jammed Radio Without Borders Intl for some months in 1993. He too is responsible for the letter sent to the In-

spection of the Radio Control, where indicated the home address of the RWBI, that caused the raid of the station on August 10th, 1993. As I was closely connected with RWBI, so my name was surely added to Radio 75's "list of no reply". I appreciate the help of Igor Elizarov, who sent me some information on the history and the present day of this pirate, got recently right from Sevastopol. OP Mikhail (Mike) started his activity somewhere back in 1992 after reading an article, published by Igor Krylov (RWBI) in one Russian DX publication. Then Radio Black Sea Intl was born (Sevastopol is located on Crimean Black Sea coast). Somewhere in February 1993 we were a bit puzzled after checking out, that every time, when RWBI came on the air, on the same frequency an overmodulated voice appeared, talking about the Islamic Revolution and announcing itself Radio 75 "The Voice of Mojaheds of the Laptev Sea". Igor was too much surprised to find out the voice and manner of speaking had been similar to Mike's one (the reason of the jamming action is covered by mysteries up till now). Mike later said, that the main deal of the station was simply "suppression of RWBI". After RWBI's stormy events in the 1993 Summer and her last program one year later, Mike continued his activities, imitating Middle Eastern Clandestines. In May 1996, he started another project under the name of **Teheran Cradle Radio**. The station was active spreading its signal over the European part of Russia until September on 27150 kHz (CQ channel of CB hams from Moscow region) with "hot newsreports from Iran-Russia war frontline" (???) accompanied by Arabic music relayed from Radio Dubai. Besides CB, Teheran Cradle Radio once tried 48 m. Presenting TCR Mike used names "DJ Ayatollah Homeini" and "DJ Shamil Basaev" (the latter is that Chechen "field commander", whose terrorists made hostages most of the people in the town Budyonnovsk in Stavropol region in Summer 1995). With verification of reception reports some Dxers got the photo, where Mike is pictured sitting in his studio under the green-white banner of Algeria dressed

in Arabic national cloth, but with the Soviet Army belt and hat put on over (in future edition of FRSGDX I will try to publish this unimaginable picture, along with a QSL of R..75). At this moment RBSI/R.75/TCR/???/!!! is able to broadcast in the 3-51 MHz range in SSB (up to 1 kW in this mode), as well as in DSB, AM, FM and even RTTV (300 baud) and Slow Scan TV. If someone of you once heard or will hear on the outbound frequencies slogans like "Allah aqbar" or "No pasaran" and dedications to the Mojaheds of the Laptev Sea, remember that you picked up Radio 75 - "The Voice of the Mojaheds of the Laptev Sea", broadcasting from their sunk submarine". By the way, when I last heard this station (Sept., 28-1996 on 6290 SSB), very same Mike (then he called himself Commander of the armoured train) made announcements and gave an address in English. So, for European listeners ID problems could be solved easier. Another interesting part of Eastern Europe for Free Radio supporters has stayed the Baltic for a long time. Hope, a lot of our readers remember Baltic Coast Radio/Radio Tornado, whose headquarters were in Lithuania. Unfortunately, it was a tape station and as far as I know the OP still hasn't plans to start broadcasting right from there. Looking through SRS News I was quite amazed to get a tip about Estonian Radio Natalie using facilities of PRRS/IMR. Certainly, first of all the same idea has appeared about another person, who decided to put (this time Estonian) sounds on the air, emanating from the secret place from somewhere in Central Europe. BUT: as it was informed, this project possibly will be realized at its maximum as the "OP claims to have its own transmitter now. It only is not working proper yet". So, let us fire a "standby" light and wait, if this event happen. From my side, I promise to carry out necessary investigations and will try to present all facts and figures found as soon as they are available. At these days of Christmas and New Year Holydays I wish the best of luck to all FRSGDX readers, hope to meet all of you in 1997. it was yours truly Artiom Prokhorov reporting from Moscow □

FRS-Holland will be ringing out 1996 in style. Sunday December 22nd Christmas bells will be ringing together with great sounds of the 1970s, DX-News abd much more on 6245 kHz. On the 28th/29th FRSH will be on 6400 with some great classic rock from the 1980s. Your Holiday Season will be much more fun with the solid sounds of FRSH on your SW dial. Tune in to the station which sounds "just a bit different..."



EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO

Compiled by Peter Verbruggen

May 1976 saw the start of a new English SW station. The name: European Music Radio. It was the brainchild of Barry Stephens. Within a short period EMR developed into professional station providing the free radio audience with a balanced diet of music and information. EMR broadcasted in Swedish, German, French, Dutch and English. Remember Roger Tate, AJ Beirens and a young, inexperienced Peter Verbruggen. It was EMR being the first station introducing regular 41mb transmissions in parallel with 48 metres. EMR was one of the first- perhaps the first- testing to North America and..with success! A power of 10,000...milliwatts was enough to receive almost 20 letters from North America. Following the October 1980 raid, EMR continued via relays (mostly via the FRSH txs) and finally ceased SW activities in the 1983 Summer. 1996 marks the return of SW trms.... FRSGDX reports

EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO is back on SW. After pulling the plug out in the Summer of 1983, the Febr. 11th 1996 broadcast on 6288 came as a complete surprise! First it was thought this was an old tape but soon it appeared it was a fresh px presented by Barry Stephens, the man who was the key-figure behind the very successful operations in the late 1970s and early 1980s. EMR and FRSH were sister-stations and EMR's raid came at a moment FRSH was only a few

months old! Till June 1983 EMR was active on 5th Sundays via FRSH. In addition there were a few UK relays (Radio Krypton). The EMR which popped up in the second half of the 1980s on 6725 was certainly not the initiative of Barry Stephens. After the Febr. 11th broadcast (with an excellent signal by the way!) EMR was irregularly heard on 48 metres in the upper part of the 48 mb. As we are in direct contact with Barry Stephens, we can now reveal that he took the initiative for a re-

listener, living in the central part of the Netherlands, who was informed about this test reported that this signal was better than the one produced by the farmers from Holland on 6307! It was the best SW free radio signal he heard for months! The px consisted of a mix of jingles, tunes, oldies and only one brief live announcement "there's more to come in the upcoming weeks." Don't expect EMR will be back with 3 or 4 hour programmes. The plan is to bring 60 minutes shows in Eng-

EUROPEAN Music RADIO		QSL	BROADCASTING:-
			FROM: EUROPE
			TO: EUROPE
			ON: 41 METRES
TO _____	ADDRESS:- E.M.R.		
G.M.T. _____	P.O. BOX 2727,		
DATE _____	6049 ZG,		
BAND _____	HERTEN		
ANTENNA _____	Netherlands.		
TX POWER _____			
BEST WISHES TO YOU!			

launch of this legendary SW station. He contacted a few persons who saw it as a challenge to bring the station back on SW. Currently they are in the process of preparing future programming. EMR will certainly not return on a monthly basis. Broadcasts will be aired 6 to 8 times a year (included are a few tests as well) on 41 metres. That implies that operations have been shifted from 48 to 41 metres. In the mean time adjustments have been carried out on the aerial and tx and this resulted in two tests which seem not to have been noted by anyone. So far no free radio source reported about reception on any tests. The first one on Sunday Nov. 17th at 13.00 UTC was only a brief carrier signal on 7360. Problems with the modulation (RF feedback) prevented the EMR engineer from playing music. In the next few days the problem was solved and on Sun November 24th at 12.00 UTC a very powerful signal was heard on 7360 kHz for about 15 minutes. Both strength and modulation were excellent and one Dutch

lish, French, German and perhaps Dutch. Some of the old presenting staff have been contacted. A set of new jingles will be recorded (French Ids have already been recorded) although the old one (remember the AJ Beirens & Roger Tate ones) seem timeless! EMR will be putting out a European Hit Music format. We are awaiting news about the first official transmission... Keep an eye on 7360 and other frequencies within the 7300-7450 range. Interesting to see is that EMR will perhaps be the only SW free radio station using a frequency within the 7300-7400 range as it's quite some time ago BRI was heard on 7360. EMR has indeed proved that great results can be achieved on 41 metres! And finally this: EMR will be having a brand-new address which is...Box 2727, 6049 ZG Herten in the Netherlands. A qsl-card, info-sheet and a sticker are already printed!

	BROADCASTING	FROM: EUROPE	
	EUROPEAN Music RADIO		
	TO: EUROPE	ON: 41 METRES	

TRANSATLANTIC RADIO

TRANSATLANTIC RADIO is one of the most active Dutch stations in the past two years. TAR broadcasts are not only limited to 48 metres, also on 76 metres TAR is regularly to be heard.

It all started in the 1980s when a group of no less than 12 persons were airing programmes under the name *Radio Nova* on 7290 kHz/41 metres. A small tx was in use, the PA was a EL84 valve putting out a power of 8 watts. Trms were weekly and lasted 8 hours! Following a great two year period in which many reports were received from all parts of Europe, it was decided to cease trms because of internal

ties and the whole crew wanted to leave it that way. So, from one moment to another the station was closed down never to return again. Most of the crew members got involved in local FM pirates. One of them worked for Radio Transatlantic in 1992 and bought himself an old SW receiver at a local jumble sale. The radio was tested on a Sunday morning and Radio Torenvalk was received loud and clear. After listening for a period, he contacted the OP of Radio Torenvalk who constructed a 10W 48 mb tx. Tests on 6242 were put on the air, problem was that the Inverted V wasn't matched resulting in an ERP of a mere watt. A test on August 8th 1993 resulted in just one report from Germany. Transatlantic Radio was born and from that time onwards TAR has been regularly heard on the European airwaves. August 15th 1993, a week after the unsuccess-

The station OP also purchased a new valve amplifier for the modulation. Last year a number of tests were carried out on 6260 and ever since TAR is using this frequency within the 48 mb. Power was doubled by using a second PL519 valve in the PA section of the tx. Quite recently a new tx has been put into operation. Power is 350W but the big advantage is that this unit can be tuned between 31 and 47 metres without using Xtals. Following the success on 48, TAR also started on 76 metres with a power of 150W. The antenna is a shortened Inverted V using coils in the centre of the wire. Quite recently the station's OP has been constructing a new VFO-controlled tx which can be used on medium wave and 76 metres. Future plans include trms on a fixed Sunday including musical shows and a mailbag programme. There are plans for tests on 31 metres



disagreements. That was in 1985. The tx was still in working order and was owned by one of the 12. In 1989 a couple of friends regained their enthusiasm and SW trms were recommenced but not for long. After 6 months one of the guys involved was informed that Nova would be raided during the next broadcast. So far the station hadn't had any problems with authori-

ties and the whole crew wanted to leave it that way. So, from one moment to another the station was closed down never to return again. Most of the crew members got involved in local FM pirates. One of them worked for Radio Transatlantic in 1992 and bought himself an old SW receiver at a local jumble sale. The radio was tested on a Sunday morning and Radio Torenvalk was received loud and clear. After listening for a period, he contacted the OP of Radio Torenvalk who constructed a 10W 48 mb tx. Tests on 6242 were put on the air, problem was that the Inverted V wasn't matched resulting in an ERP of a mere watt. A test on August 8th 1993 resulted in just one report from Germany. Transatlantic Radio was born and from that time onwards TAR has been regularly heard on the European airwaves. August 15th 1993, a week after the unsuccess-

ful test, a much better aerial was used and the 6245 broadcast produced no less than 75 letters. Remember: power was only 10W! In 1994 conditions were deteriorating and that resulted in a more powerful tx. In the final stage of the tx a PL519 valve was used effectively giving 175 watts in combination with a 1000 volts charge. 9241 and on 43 metres 6955. In the mean time trms close to 6955 (6960/ 6965) have already taken place in May (see FRSGDX 140 page 12). In addition TAR has also been heard on 7435L. OP Harry has been doing a few trms together with Hans, the Radio Torenvalk OP. The address to write to is Box 4427, 3006 AK Rotterdam □

MAILBOX 2727

In this "Mailbox 2727" we handle the letters which were received in September and October.

Klaus Fuchs received us on Sun Sept. 29th 07.50-14.30 UTC on 6275 with his Yaesu FRG 7700 connected with 6 metres indoor wire + ATU. *"Hello FRSH, I was very happy to hear your well-produced shows".*

Ralf Pokar from Leonberg, Germany writes: *"thanks for sending me the latest FRSGDX issue, like always a great read!! I only missed one of my favourite features 'Memories of SW Pirates'. For me as a still young pirate listener (I only started 8 years ago), this brings back the good old days I only know from recordings."* It's good to see you like that column. Unfortunately Ian Biggar is also missing in this edition, we hope he's back in the first 1997 edition!

In a second letter Ralf writes: *"Your Oct. pxs provided brilliant entertainment, in the PV show you played some excellent music that was exactly my taste. And thanks heaven Stefan Kramer could make it to present his show despite his illness."*

Much to our surprise we received a letter from Ian Iredale, Merseyside in the UK. He already listened to FRS in the 80s but in the past few years we didn't hear from him... *"Happy birthday for later this month. The time that you have been on the air co-incides with how long I have been a SW listener. I first FRSH I still was at school- and now I'm married with 2 children and in my 30s. Signal on Sept. 29th on 6275 was very good."* We hope this is the start from a new series of letters dear Ian. Hope you catch us in Dec.

"I have just had the pleasure of hearing your station from Australia. The signal was very weak and sometimes inaudible, however, with the aid of my tape recorder and going over the tape many times, I believe I heard your station. As luck would happen, a friend has a computer hooked to the Internet and read about your station, and gave me your address. My receiver is a Collins R390A". These are the words from John Wright living in Sydney, Australia. We are astonished we were heard so far away. Credits are going out to the RFL boys, it was their tx putting out the signal!

"Thanks for all your Email about the birthday broadcast. I cannot listen tomorrow, so I shall just send you this quick

comment on your Sat night broadcast and add my congratulations for the long and successful history of FRSH. I liked your story about the Dxpeditio with a Sony 2001 but also the story about the 10W tx which was produced with the help of Barry Stephens." This letter comes from John Campbell who already heard us in August 1980 when we first got on the air! Thank you John, it's great to know you're still tuning in after all these years.

Horst Cersovsky in Sangerhausen was happy to hear our anniversary show in good quality. *"Reception here was better than 3 weeks ago. Sinpo-code: 45444 using a NRD 525G receiver. I preferred 6243 to listen to, 'FRS Goes DX' was excellent again. Personally I'm proud to have the qsl-card of your July 1980 test in my collection."*

That reception was good on 6243 is proved by a letter from Riga, Latvia from Andrejam Kuznecovam. *"I like your programme, it was the first time I tuned in to your shows. I really like your super mix with nice music and DX news."* Thanks Andre for your nice comments, it's great to know we were received in your part of the world.

"I have been listening on and off to FRSH today- enjoyed the show a lot. At 07.00 UTC 6274 came in very well. Thanks for a very nice show." It's always encouraging reading such comments from colleagues in the radio world. Thank you very much Stig Hartvig Nielsen!!

A letter from Christoph Scheiblberger from Austria learns us that reception there was quite good. *"Pirate radio is most enjoyable. I tuned in to FRSH for the first time and I was surprised about the good signal & modulation. I was amazed to hear you were celebrating your 16th birthday."*

Thorsten Brandenburg from Munich writes: *"It has been a great day for Free Radio because of your shows today. Why not returning to 41 metres where conditions are getting better? My opinion is that pirate radio has lost quality in the last years and your station is one of the last real quality free radios in Europe. So it is very disappointing that your station can only be heard a few times a year!"* Well, first we refer at Peter's editorial for some comments. About 41 metres: the idea is certainly worth while trying but the problem is that if we broadcast with our own

txs the signal will certainly skip a lot and that means that many listeners cannot hear us at all! For cities like Munich or Berlin, 41 metres would be ideal. And: not so many people tune in to 41 metres nowadays. And that means less letters etc. When FRSH would be on air each 3rd Sun 41 metres would become known by the listeners, not when you broadcast 6 or 7 times a year. The best solution is using 41 metre in parallel with 48 metres. We have the equipment to do that but don't always have a suitable and safe site!

"Congratulations to your 16th birthday" writes Rudolf Sonntag from Puchheim, Germany. *"I saw that my first report to FRSH is dated Oct. 18th 1981, then on 7315. It's incredible how time is passing by. I hope FRSH will stay because especially at a moment FR stations with professional pxs are rare."* Thank you.

"This was once again 'eine klasse Sendung'." 6240 came in with a wonderful signal" writes Johann Ruff in Mühlheim.

Moving now to Denmark where 34 year old Peter Witten- he's a journalist- is living. *"It was nice to hear FRSH again. I have heard your station several times before, and I have always enjoyed the news about the free radio scene."*

"I was glad to hear FRSH back on the air after quite a while. Really good to hear some 80s pop in your shows. That makes a nice change with polka and techno stuff, ha." That must be a very good reason to tune our way on the 22nd and the 29th dear Axel Röse in Neuss, Germany!

A letter from Sweden where Roland Ake-son heard us on the 29th of September. *"I am very happy to have been able picking up your signal. The pxs were interesting with a very personal style. At 08.15 UTC a sinpo of 44444 was noted on 6275."*

Harel Philippe is a keen FRSH listener who picked us up on 3945 and 6275 in the night of Oct. 19th to 20th. *"We received you in Hungary at Tizsafured, approx. 150 km from the Ukraine border. My receiver is a portable Sony ICF SW33."*

And finally...*"Hello FRSH, congratulations to your 16th anniversary. Your shows were very enjoyable, also reminiscing the early days via the stories told by the listeners. Because of improving conditions, I heard a great number of stations but of course FRSH is my number one."*